

## Martial law declared in Kabul after rioting and arson

Martial law was declared in Kabul yesterday after widespread insurgency broke out in protest at the Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan. Russian troops poured into the city in armoured vehicles,

according to reports reaching Delhi, and there was shooting on the streets. In a Moscow speech, President Brezhnev said American 'subversion' was making it impossible for Russia to withdraw.

## American 'with CIA links' held

Moscow, Feb 22.—The Afghan Government today imposed martial law in Kabul after outbreaks of rioting and arson this morning, the Soviet Press news agency said.

Quoting a statement by the Afghan Interior Ministry, Tass said foreign agents and mercenaries had launched "insubordinate and disruptive actions". When the authorities moved to control the situation, the rioters turned to looting and arson, the agency added. "Agents and British, American, Pakistani and Chinese mercenaries were responsible for the disturbances," Tass said.

It added that an American named Robert Lee "known for his links with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)" had been arrested by the Afghan authorities.

Today's disturbances—on the Muslim Sabbath—followed reports of a strike among city traders which began yesterday in protest at the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

Tass said the Government had ordered everyone possessing arms without special permission to hand them in to local police stations within 24 hours. People who broke the martial law regulations, which included a curfew, would be immediately put before revolutionary courts martial.

Tass quoted the Afghan Government statement as saying the authorities were in complete control of the situation "and capable of resisting any provocative and aggressive actions".—Reuters.

launched what may be the start of a full-scale insurgency in Kabul, leaving the city in the grip of continuous firing and at least three people dead, according to reports reaching Delhi today.

The reports, from impeccable sources, said the city was in the "grip of crisis". The Russians had sent MIG 21s to bomb at rooftop level and Soviet armoured troops were pouring into Kabul.

At least three anti-Soviet demonstrations with thousands of Afghans involved were said to have taken place in a tense climate punctuated by small-scale fires. It was not immediately clear who was firing, but there were indications that Soviet troops might be returning violence.

The demonstrations came after a protest closure of the Kabul bazaar yesterday, said to have been followed by 95 per cent of traders—in the first open anti-Soviet outbreak in the capital.

The Afghan Government today cut all telephone and telegraph links to India and Pakistan.

The gunfire began last night. The reports spoke of unusually heavy movements of Soviet armoured troops carriers overnight, after chanting from rooftops of "Allah-Akbar" (God is great) and "Death to the Russians".

The general strike, which has already been in partial effect in provincial centres such as Herat in the west and Kandahar in the south, was said to be spreading throughout the country.

Among the cities affected were Mazari-Sharif, Baghlan, Wardak, Pakhtia, Gzai, Jalalabad and Maidan.—Agence France Presse.

Black picture: American intelligence analysts have painted a bleak picture of the situation confronting Soviet troops in Afghanistan. (David Cross writes from Washington).

Nothing has gone right for the occupying army of 70,000 soldiers inside the country and the 30,000 on the frontier, they have told American reporters in a background briefing.

According to the officials, the Soviet forces have not only failed to secure complete control of major cities, roads and airfields, but the Afghan Army, which they had hoped to strengthen, has effectively disintegrated and the government of Mr Babrak Karmal can command virtually no support.

The analysts surmise that, just to secure the limited goal of holding towns and keeping main roads open, a further 25,000 to 30,000 Russian troops will be required. If Moscow decides to be more ambitious and crush the rebels, however, another 300,000 to 400,000 troops will be needed.

The analysts are still not sure how the Soviet Union will react to their perilous military position. They suspect, however, that Moscow will not be able to afford a humiliating defeat and will therefore probably build up its occupying forces during the coming weeks and months.

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Cousins acknowledging the cheers after receiving his medal.

## Cousins just secures gold medal

From John Heunessy  
Lake Placid, Feb 22

Robin Cousins, aged 22, from Bristol, did just enough to win the men's figure skating gold medal at the winter Olympic Games here last night.

Rehearsed Jan Hoffman in the free skating programme in spite of an early mistake. At the end, only 0.3 of a point separated them, with Charles Tickner, of the United States, third.

Cousins, who was not quite at his brilliant best, said afterwards: "I will have to do much better in the world championship."

He acknowledged Hoffman's greater versatility at jumps, but added that there was much more to five-minute free skating than that.

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## BSC refuses unions' settlement formula

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

Peace talks failed again last night to produce a formula for an early end to the national steel strike, now well into its eighth week.

The British Steel Corporation management spurned a new pay and productivity package tabled by the two main unions on the ground that it was too expensive and did not meet the industry's requirement for self-imposed wage increases.

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, said after day-long talks in London: "They have made no attempt to negotiate."

The unions offered a 15-month agreement to run until March 31 next year, and put a price of 20 per cent on it.

Mr Robert Scholey, BSC chief executive, disagreed with the union's arithmetic and costed the proposed deal at up to 30 per cent on the wage bill. He said: "The gap is obviously massive. Against a weak agreement, we do not see any reason to change our position. Our final offer is our final offer."

The two sides are not yet at a final breakdown point in the latest round of negotiations. While arbitration has once again been rejected by the unions, both they and BSC insist that the door is open to continue talking. But the steelworkers

and blastfurnacemen are not bringing their war to negotiations to London tomorrow as originally planned.

The unions yesterday suggested that as part of a £46m change of direction in the corporation's financial strategy the £230m originally earmarked for payment of redundancy money to 32,000 workers could be spent on a pay settlement.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, yesterday ruled out such a possibility, and Mr Sims said: "There is no doubt about it. We are manipulating the strike in the background as to what the corporation wants."

In public at least, the steelworkers' leaders are not unduly worried by the refusal of South Wales miners to strike over the future of pits affected by the rundown of state steel. Mr Sims said that he was surprised by the strike.

As predicted in *The Times* earlier this week, steel workers asked for 20 per cent, broken down into 15 per cent across the board in return for a six-page agreement on changed working practices and other concessions, and a substantial 5 per cent rise in return for national underpinning to negotiate local productivity agreements "at the earliest possible moment".

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## Steel rebellion grows as private firm's men vote to go back

From Ronald Kershaw  
Sheffield

Strikers at Sheffield's biggest private sector steel company, Firth Brown's, voted to return to work on Monday and set the trend for rebellion against the strike called by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation.

At least four other smaller companies in the area are also understood to have taken return-to-work decisions and tomorrow's confederation members at Sheffield's other big steel plant, Badfields, will take a decision at a mass meeting.

It is expected, the Badfields workers also decide to end their strike, there may be lively scenes when pickets have to cover an increasing number of strike breakers.

South Yorkshire police are making "contingency arrangements" at private plants where men are expected to return to work. These are understood to include Corvairs of Rotherham and Modern Products, South Yorkshire Workers at Osborn Steels of Ecclesfield, and Spencer Clark of Sheffield plan to return to work on Monday.

The decision to resume work at Firth Brown's was taken by between 300 and 600 confederation members, about half the confederation work force, at a meeting in the works canteen. It was taken in spite of the advice of confederation officials.

Confederation officials pointed out that a return to work was unconstitutional because it was directly against the instructions of the union's national executive.

There is likely to be considerable confusion at Firth Brown's on Monday when the men turn up for work. In addition to

running a gauntlet of pickets, they may find that representatives of other unions still working at the plant will refuse to start the furnaces for steel-making.

More than 300 senior shop stewards of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions will meet on Monday afternoon to discuss the position of their members still in the works. Mr George Caborn, chairman of the South Yorkshire district, said last night that there was an agreement whereby CSEU members went to work on existing stocks, but refused to carry out ISC work.

The question is what is to be done if ISC men disobey the instructions of their own union, Mr Caborn said.

Work rationed: Worsening steel shortages have forced Metal Box to introduce work rationing for 350 employees making cans at two factories in Hull. (Our Business Staff writes). The employees have been split into two groups which will work alternate weeks.

Metal Box, which depends on British Steel for 50 per cent of its supply of steel, already laid off 4,000 of its 19,000 workers producing metal packaging.

About 400 workers at the Spillers pet food factory at Wisbech, Cambridge, were told yesterday that they would be laid off soon because supplies of cans were almost exhausted.

Workers in food processing industries in south Lincolnshire are also being laid off. They include 50 at the Smedley factory at Spalding and 45 at Lockwood's Foods, Long Sutton.

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## Lords to rule if man and stepdaughter can marry

By George Clark  
Political Correspondent

A legal tangle involving two people who wish to be married but are debarred from doing so by the law of what is known as the "prohibited degrees", deriving in ecclesiastical law from the Book of Leviticus, is to be unravelled by the House of Lords in Personal Bills Committee next Wednesday.

A Bill has been presented by Mr Edward Barry, aged 61, and his stepdaughter, Mrs Doris Ward, aged 37, of Poplar Walk, Heston Hill, London.

Their petition to the Lords states that they are within the prohibited degree of affinity, and despite the absence of any blood relationship, they are unable by law to be married.

It states: "Mr Barry and Mrs Ward live apart and do not wish to live as man and wife unless and until they are permitted to be and are married to each other."

Mr Barry is a protective engineer, employed by a large haulage and engineering company. Mrs Ward is a former nurse who was married to an engineer who died in Sarawak in 1965 as the result of an accident.

The couple submit a letter from Canon Rex Williams of St Paul's Church, Heston Hill, dated July 1978, which states: "The picture now is: Mr Edward Barry is a widower, and Mrs Doris Ward is his late husband's widow. They are being no blood relationship between them. Mr Barry now desires to marry Mrs Ward."

"The Table of Kindred and Affinity, however, states that a man may not marry his wife's daughter. It also states that a man may not marry his wife's sister. However, I am inclined to the view that as long as the late Mrs Barry lived there was a technical relationship between them, ie, Mrs Doris Ward was his stepdaughter. But now that Mrs Barry has died, is this relationship still a barrier to a marriage?"

Canon Williams writes that Mr Barry is a man of correct, reverent and Christian conviction, whom he has known for more than 12 years.

The petition explains that in 1943 Mr Barry, then aged 25 and a bachelor, married Mrs Barry, then a widow aged 37, who had previously borne four children by her first and only husband, George Harold Harris, who died on June 22, 1944. Mrs Ward is one of these children.

After marriage, Mr Barry assumed responsibility for the care and upbringing of his wife's four children, but one of Mrs Ward's sons, Mr Barry, died in October 1977, and Mr Barry has since remained a widower.

After Mr William Ward died Mrs Ward took up permanent residence in England with her two children, now of mature years.

The petition refers to the House of Lords' decision of February 13, 1979, on the Bill introduced by Lady Wootton of Abinger. In effect, it would have enabled persons to marry anybody who was not a blood relation. The Bill was not approved.

The last case to go before the Personal Bills Committee was in 1975 and involved a question of naturalization.

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## Tito life extended by machine

Belgrade, Feb 22.—President Tito's doctors said today that a machine has successfully taken over the functions of his weakened kidneys, a method that could keep him alive for a long time.

Officials said there was still no hope he would recover after a critical illness that has brought him close to death several times in the past seven weeks.

A medical bulletin confirmed earlier unofficial reports that the 87-year-old Yugoslav leader's bloodstream was being periodically cleansed by a dialysis support system.—Reuters.

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## HOME NEWS

## Miners' leaders face total rout as militants reject strike

From Tim Jones

Miners' leaders in South Wales were last night faced with a total rout as pit voted against their instruction to mount an all-out indefinite strike from Monday.

By last night 20 pits had voted, and each rejected overwhelmingly the call for industrial action.

At one pit thought to have voted for the strike miners turning up for later shifts reversed the decision. Yesterday some of the most militant pits in the coalfield rejected the call and there were renewed allegations of the leadership being out of touch.

One of the pits (colliery union branch) based at Deep Dyffryn, which was closed last year after a protracted struggle, will be taken at pithead meetings.

The only lodge that voted in favour of striking was the small one at Deep Dyffryn, which was closed last year after a protracted struggle, will be taken at pithead meetings.

Miners' leaders, who on Wednesday had confidently predicted solid support for their call,

refused to comment on the results. They will be making a statement today after all the results are known.

To add to the leaders' embarrassment, dockers at Newport voted to lift their blockade of the Jezera, which has been waiting since Christmas for its cargo of 18,000 tons of imported coking coal to be unloaded.

A spokesman for the Transport and General Workers' Union said his men felt there was little point in helping the miners if they were not prepared to help themselves.

That decision leaves the National Union of Mineworkers' strategy against coal imports in tatters. The miners' leaders had argued that imports, coupled with British Steel Corporation plans to run down steelmaking in South Wales, could ultimately threaten up to 20 of the 36 pits in the area.

Irrespective of the vote, the miners' leaders intend to call a special delegates conference on Tuesday, ostensibly to decide on a course of action against the National Coal Board for alleged "gross interference" in the ballot. The board denies the charge.

At Tuesday's meeting there is bound to be an inquest on why the 160 delegates voted unanimously for strike action when their rank and file were unwilling to follow them.

## Scottish TUC puts its case to Mr Prior

From Ronald Faux

Steelworkers gave Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, a rowdy reception when he arrived at the Scottish TUC headquarters in Glasgow yesterday.

Amid chanting and shouting from about 100 pickets, the men demanded that steelworkers should receive the same level of settlement as had been given to other industries.

Mr Prior expressed the hope that when negotiations began between the British Steel Corporation and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, both parties would remain around the table until a settlement was reached.

"You are doing a great deal of harm," he told the strikers. "We have a difficult problem to solve in the steel industry, and there is a steel industry, so for God's sake, at least try to listen."

Mr Prior then went into the building for a half-hour meeting with the General Council of the Scottish TUC, and emerged an hour and a quarter later. The talks, he said, had been frank and constructive, but he admitted there had been points on which they were in strong disagreement.

A member of the council said later that the most difficult areas had been a secondary picketing, the closed shop and the maternity leave provisions in the proposals going before Parliament.

The Scottish TUC was concerned that firms employing fewer than five people would be exempted from providing the minimum maternity leave. Many Scottish firms came into that category.

The council made clear its resolve industrial relations difficulties. History taught otherwise. Each attempt at legislation had made industrial relations worse.

Mr Prior replied that he was satisfied that his views had the support of ordinary people. As "ordinary people", the Scottish TUC leaders disagreed.

Bill attacked: Mr Alan Sapper, general secretary of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, who is a member of the TUC General Council, told a Scottish TUC delegate conference at Glasgow yesterday: "The total proposals in the Employment Bill and the proposals for trade union immunity are a catastrophic attack on the working class of the country" (the Press Association reports).

"It is not just a small section of dissidents in our community that is being restrained. It is all of us."

The new proposals would make it far easier for employers to obtain injunctions against picketing in a wide range of industrial action, and they were even more dangerous than the rest of the provisions in the "so-called Employment Bill".

## Firm in move to beat power station strike

By Our Labour Staff

The company at the centre of a dispute that threatens to close the half-completed £500m power station at the Isle of Grain, Kent, will try next week to recruit workers prepared to defy union instructions and work on the construction project.

A six-month dispute over bonus payments involving 27 insulation ladders has crippled work on the station. Earlier this week the men's union, the General and Municipal Workers, withdrew official support for the strike, but has "blackened" the site.

The Central Electricity Generating Board has given Cape Contracts, the insulation contractors, until March 3 to resume work or risk losing the contract. The board has said it is prepared to stop all construction work on the station.

A spokesman for Cape Contracts said last night: "We are in a very difficult position, caught between the CEB and the union, neither of which appears to be prepared to bend. All we can do is advise for people who are prepared to come and work in these conditions, although I am not very hopeful."

The company is a member of the Thermal Insulation Contractors Association and is bound by an agreement to use GMWU members. The ladders, who are picketing the site, wear earbuds between £220 and £240 a week.

## Dock strike ends as men accept better pay offer

By Our Labour Staff

London's docks should be back to normal working on Monday after a decision yesterday by a dockers' union to end a pay strike lasting two weeks which has cost the employers more than £2m in lost revenue.

Members of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers Union decided at a mass meeting to accept the employers' improved pay offer of increases ranging between 14 and 18 per cent.

The union's 1,500 members in the three enclosed docks and the riverside wharfs went on strike after rejecting a 12 per cent offer.

The other dockers' union, the Transport and General Workers' Union, which had held a series of one-day strikes, is to ballot its 3,000 members on the offer with a recommendation to reject. The employers were hopeful the offer would be accepted.

When the NASDU men were called out, TGWU members refused to cross picket lines. All we can do is advise for people who are prepared to come and work in these conditions, although I am not very hopeful."

## Sir Keith greeted by howl of protest

From Arthur Osman

Birmingham

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, received the now mandatory howl of abuse from about 80 steel workers when he visited a Conservative Party office in Birmingham yesterday.

He was harangued about his role in the industry's affairs by Mr Dennis Turner, a West Midlands county councillor and a leader of strikers at the doomed Bilston steel works.

Sir Keith, who listened courteously as police hemmed in pickets from Corby and Bilston, said that of course steel workers wanted to earn more money; they earned an average of £110 a week and they had been offered the chance of earning more by higher productivity.

Mr Turner, who retorted: "I thought you would say that," was invited to continue the talk inside the office but, being seemingly intent on a forecourt discussion, he declined with the parting shot: "You have the media on your side."

Later Sir Keith, asked whether the apparent defiance of union leaders by various groups of workers meant the country was seeing a change of climate, replied: "I would like to hope that there is a hint of the beginning of a change but it is only limited at this stage."

The only way to extend it, he considered, was to continue explaining to workers that the real provider of jobs was the customer. He said he was unable to be more optimistic than was justified; there was a long way to go.

He declined to be drawn on whether there might be a quick settlement of the steel dispute, saying: "I have no more material than you have."

The British Steel Corporation was bankrupted could pay only from what it received, either from the customer or by selling assets.

On BL, Sir Keith said he hoped it would recover its market share and achieve its plan and targets.

On inflation he said: "I would not have thought it would go any higher. What we are suffering from now is the result of the loss of control of the money supply by the Labour government."

Earlier he had visited GEC's turbine generator group at Rugby, where Mr Robert Davidson, the managing director, emphasized the need for a committee ordering programme for the British power utilities. Because of the severe depression in the home market every turbine under construction in the factory was for export.

Mr Wright denied yesterday that he had been spurred to announce his decision to fight the election before April, when nominations close, because of a letter of the membership Is due to be completed by September and there may be other candidates.

Mr Wright's supporters claim that he is being "gagged" by the leadership, who are said to have refused permission for him to speak on public platforms in recent weeks. There appears to be little contact between him and other senior union officials, and relations with Sir John are said to be at arm's length."

Mr Wright said yesterday that he had decided to stand against Mr Duffey after receiving many requests from branches who have said they will support his campaign.

## Mr Duffey faces leadership challenge by left-winger

By David Felton

Labour Reporter

The political infighting among the leadership of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Britain's second largest union, was heightened yesterday when Mr Robert Wright, the left-wing assistant general secretary, said he would challenge Mr Terence Duffey in the election for union president.

Mr Wright, aged 38, who was defeated by Mr Duffey in the last presidential election two years ago, is at the centre of a dispute over the dismissal of two union research officers who were alleged to be doing private work for him.

The union executive council has called Mr Wright to appear before it on Tuesday, when it is likely that he will be accused of breaking union rules. It is possible that the executive may attempt to dismiss him, although that would cause a wider split in the union.

The two research officers, Mr Alan Hughes, a branch secretary, and Mr Trevor Eward, were dismissed by Sir John Boyd, AUEW general secretary, when the papers they had prepared for Mr Wright were discovered by the union leadership.

One paper, on last year's engineering strike, was headed "Duffey's Dirty Deal". The other was an appraisal of the union's leadership's likely response to the Government's employment legislation.

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## Mrs Grimond retiring

Mrs Laura Grimond, the wife of Mr Jo Grimond, MP, is to retire later this year from the Orkney Islands Council, of which she has been a member for six years.



Pensioners protest: Mrs Ada Picton, aged 73 (centre), dressed as an eighteenth-century peasant and carrying a bundle of firewood over her shoulder, led 30 pensioners in a protest outside Mrs Margaret Thatcher's home in Flood Street, Chelsea, yesterday.

About 300 pensioners from all over London were taking part in a relay vigil which will end tomorrow when they band in a petition at 10 Downing Street complaining of the Government's failure to provide a higher pension increase and fuel support scheme.

at a time when pensioners are being adversely affected by health and social service cuts. Mrs Picton, a former laundry attendant, said: "I do not drink or smoke or have any luxuries." She had only £23 a week to live on. Mrs Thatcher was not at home.

## Rough ride ahead on school Bill

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

The Government's proposals in the Education (No 2) Bill for charging for children's transport to school are likely to run into strong opposition in the House of Lords at the prolonged committee stage, which begins on March 10. More than 600 amendments have been prepared by the Opposition.

In the Commons a Conservative rebellion led by Sir Nicholas Bonsor, MP for Nantwich, resulted in 13 Tories voting with the Opposition against the proposals. They argued that the proposals singled out parents in country areas for unlimited school charges.

That revolt would have been bigger had not Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science, introduced a last-minute amendment requiring local authorities to provide transport at a uniform rate not depending on the lengths of journey.

Peers are likely to try to impose some upper limit on the amount that can be charged.

## EEC decides to study N Ireland economy

From Annabel Ferriman

Belfast

Northern Ireland's economy is to be investigated by the European Commission's regional policy committee.

The committee decided in Brussels yesterday to appoint an official to draw up a report of the province's economy and how it could be brought up to the level of the rest of the Community.

Mr John Hume, a member for Northern Ireland of the European Parliament and leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, has been campaigning for special treatment for the province because of its social and economic difficulties.

He had drawn up a resolution demanding an investigation into the province's economy and the establishment of a special economic development programme was necessary and the experience gained could be applied to other regions, Mr Hume's report said.

The search for peace was linked with winning prosperity. The resolution sought to provide a common basis on which a broad coalition of members of the European Parliament could show their concern about the situation in Northern Ireland and to establish a programme on which most of its people could agree.

The regional policy committee unanimously endorsed the resolution.

## Woman who missed job wins appeal

From Our Own Correspondent

Belfast

The Equal Opportunities Commission in Northern Ireland won its first employment case yesterday when the Court of Appeal ruled that a woman audio-visual technician did not get a full-time job because of her sex.

Mrs Norma Wallace, aged 36, of Bangor, Co. Down, did not get a full-time job at Northern Technical College even though she was better qualified than the male applicant who was successful.

Mrs Wallace took the case to an industrial tribunal last May under the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order, 1976, but lost. Yesterday Lord Lowry, the Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Lord Justices Jones and O'Donnell, allowed her appeal.

The commission said afterwards that the case was significant because the judges had endorsed an earlier ruling in Britain that if an applicant could prove that she had been treated differently from a man it was up to the employer to prove that it was not because of her sex.

## Watering the tomatoes in the age of technology

By Hugh Clayton

Agriculture Correspondent

Tomatoes will be grown in water and heated by water in a large glasshouse complex to be built in North Yorkshire. Nobody concerned was available yesterday to say whether they would also taste like water.

Two organizations have formed a joint company which is to spend £2.5m in the search for a British tomato complex enough to compete with out-of-season imports. The company decided that the most extensive and inflation-prone part of tomato growing was the oil used to heat glasshouses.

In its zeal to cut the cost of heating the produce it has also eliminated sun, soil, weeds, insects and everything else associated with traditional market gardens.

The company has been formed by the Central Electricity Generating Board and Grand Metropolitan, the catering and brewing combine.

It is to build what it claims will be the largest glasshouse complex using nutrient film technique in Europe and perhaps in the world. With an area of 20 acres, it will represent about a hundredth of the whole British area of glasshouses used for growing tomatoes.

Nutrient film technique is the placing of plant roots in a solution of essential salts instead of in soil. The glasshouse, which will all be heated by water piped from the Drax coal-fired power station, near by.

The water is used there to cool generating plant and the heat thus gained is of no use to the power station.

The latest survey of food prices from the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau shows minimum prices of 28p a pound for imported tomatoes and 70p for home-grown varieties.

## Homesick couple leapt from cliff to deaths

A young homesick Japanese couple, said to have been unhappy after their arrival in England last autumn, linked their wrists with a Japanese scarf and leapt from a 60ft cliff at Land's End to their deaths. It was stated at an inquest at Truro, Cornwall, yesterday.

Mr Shunsuke Nakaura, aged 29, who was depressed with his job at a London import-export agency, and his young wife, Mrs. 280 miles from their home in Ravenswood Road, Kenley, Surrey, to Land's End, where they drank whisky and wrote letters to family and friends before leaping from a cliff.

Mr Edward Carlyon, the coroner, recorded a verdict of suicide.

Yorkshire pit to close

South Yorkshire's oldest pit, Orgreave Colliery, near Sheffield, is to close. Mr George Hayes, the area director, said yesterday that the coal reserve would be worked out within 12 months.

Of 575 men at the pit, which was sunk in 1851, about a quarter will stay to work on coal preparation plant.

Doctors given caution on heart transplants

Medical authorities were cautioned by the Department of Health yesterday to think carefully before carrying out heart transplants.

They were reminded of the standards established three years ago, under which transplants are expected to be part of a programme based on research and experience, and with the full back-up of the various skills and sciences such as immunology associated with transplant surgery.

In a letter to regional and area medical officers the department emphasized the criteria drawn up by the Transplant Advisory Panel.

It said the department was considering the implications of transplant work, including finance, and medical authorities were not expected to make any policy change "in the absence of further heart transplants until the department's deliberations were complete."

The letter is a warning to medical authorities to think twice before carrying out transplants.

BL workers are laid off because of poor sales

About 6,500 workers at British Leyland's body and assembly plants at Cowley, Oxfordshire, were laid off yesterday because of poor sales of cars, including Cowley-built Marinas, Mazdas and Princesses.

Marina workers will return after two weeks and work until the Easter break, when they may be laid off for another two weeks. Maxi and Princess workers will be off for at least a month.

Bonus scheme rejected: A mass meeting of workers at the Talbot car plant at Linwood voted overwhelmingly yesterday to reject a new bonus scheme. But Mr John Cull, the shop stewards' convenor, said there was no suggestion of a crisis, and talks with management would continue.

Weather forecast and recordings

Today		Tomorrow	
Sun rises: 7.0 am	Sun sets: 5.29 pm	Sun rises: 6.58 am	Sun sets: 5.53 pm
Moon rises: 1.28 am	Moon sets: 10.58 am	Moon rises: 2.33 am	Moon sets: 11.39 am
First Quarter: 12.14 am		Full moon: March 1	
Lighting up: 5.59 pm to 6.28 am		Lighting up: 6.1 pm to 6.28 am	
High water: London Bridge, 6.45 am, 6.7m; 7.23 pm, 6.5m		High water: London Bridge, 7.44 am, 6.4m; 8.25 pm, 6.2m	
Avonmouth, 12.19 pm, 11.0m		Avonmouth, 12.40 am, 10.4m; 1.24 pm, 10.2m	
Dover, 4.53 am, 5.7m; 3.49 pm, 5.1m; 4.23 pm, 5.7m		Dover, 4.53 am, 5.7m; 3.49 pm, 5.1m; 4.23 pm, 5.7m	
Hull, 11.25 am, 6.2m; 11.49 pm, 6.2m		Hull, 11.25 am, 6.2m; 11.49 pm, 6.2m	
Liverpool, 4.13 am, 8.1m; 4.41 pm, 8.1m		Liverpool, 4.13 am, 8.1m; 4.41 pm, 8.1m	

Most places will be dry with some showers or rain remaining a little above normal.

Sea passages: 6 North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E). Wind SE, veering, moderate locally strong; sea slight but locally rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind variable, light, becoming SW, moderate; sea smooth.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9°C (48°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 8°C (46°F). Humidity: 6 pm, 84 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.06in. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.1hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1.015 millibars, rising.

1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Overseas selling prices

Commodity	Unit	Price
Australia	50,000	£1,000
Canada	50,000	£1,000
France	50,000	£1,000
Germany	50,000	£1,000
Italy	50,000	£1,000
Japan	50,000	£1,000
Netherlands	50,000	£1,000
Portugal	50,000	£1,000
Spain	50,000	£1,000
Sweden	50,000	£1,000
Switzerland	50,000	£1,000
USA	50,000	£1,000

The many rewards of growing parsnips

John Carey is Merton Professor of English Literature at Oxford University and a well known literary critic. Much less well known, however, is his enthusiasm for vegetable gardening.

In the *Sunday Times* tomorrow, he continues the Pleasure of Life series with a delightful essay on the many rewards of growing parsnips, the sensuous pleasure of podding broad beans and the simple satisfaction to be derived from stringing up onions for the winter.

The gardener's annual pattern", he concludes, "is a personal one, giving coherence to his life."

MP's protest on advertising ban

From Our Correspondent

Colchester

An MP yesterday called for an inquiry into the blacking of a cut-price estate agency that plans to charge clients only £42 to sell their homes.

The new firm, which was launched at Colchester, Essex, yesterday, aims to undercut estate agents' fees by several hundred pounds. But the agency, known as Househunters, has been banned from advertising its services in eight local newspapers controlled by the Colchester-based Essex County Newspapers Group.

The group's commercial director, Mr Colin Bell, said yesterday: "I took the decision to refuse advertising from this company because I am not satisfied its so-called service is in the best interests of our readers. It is also in direct competition with our own advertising columns."

Mr Bell denied, however, that he had been put under pressure to black the cut-price service by rival estate agents, who spend thousands of pounds a week on advertising.

Mrs Julie Fuller, aged 32, director of Househunters, alleged that local estate agents were behind the ban. She said: "It is obvious they are trying to put us out of business before we have even started. They are scared stiff of losing their self-appointed monopoly over the buying and selling of houses."

Househunters was officially opened yesterday by Mr Kenneth Weetch, Labour MP for Ipswich, who is also chairman of the National Freedom of Information Society.

He described the advertising ban as outrageous and added: "I have reported the matter to the Press Council, and I want to see a searching inquiry into this disgraceful ban."

It makes a nonsense of press freedom, fair play and the notion of competition in business."

Mr Weetch said that most estate agents charged about the same cent commission on the selling price of a house. "That is £500 on a £25,000 property," he said.

"It is an appalling amount

in view of the amount of work involved, and I welcome this new service as the start of a revolution in the cost to ordinary people of moving house."

The new service, which so far has five properties of its own, plans to charge a registration fee of £2 plus a minimum of £40 to promote the sale of a house for four weeks. If a property is unsold, it can be promoted for up to 12 weeks for a total of £120 plus VAT. After that, details will be circulated indefinitely, free of charge.

Mr John Howe, chairman of the Colchester area estate agents' association, which represents nine of the town's 16 agents, said yesterday: "We are not afraid of competition from any source and we have not put any pressure on the local newspaper group to refuse advertising."

"We are confident the majority of home owners will continue to support the established agents who offer a comprehensive professional service and do not charge a penny if they do not make a sale."

Prince flies to US

Prince Andrew flew to Florida, in the United States, yesterday for a 16-day spell on board HMS Hermes.

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## HOME NEWS

## Staff of NHS given assurances on pay

By John Roper  
Health Services Correspondent

National Health Service staff have been given assurances on pay by the Minister of Health, Mr. Gerard Vaughan, in a letter to the staff yesterday.

Mr. Vaughan said that the Government would not allow the pay of NHS staff to fall below the level of the civil service. He said that the Government would also ensure that the pay of NHS staff was in line with the pay of other public sector employees.

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## Tunnel fall charge against BR

From Our Correspondent  
Edinburgh

The British Railways Board and the Scottish Railways Board have been charged in connection with the death of a man in a tunnel in Scotland.

The charge is that the boards failed to ensure the safety of the tunnel.

The tunnel, on the main Edinburgh-London line near Cockburnspath, had been in use for 133 years. It collapsed last March while being renovated. Two workmen were killed.

## Ruling later on solicitors' insurance case

The High Court has reserved judgment on a claim by two solicitors that the Law Society exceeded its legal powers in setting up a compulsory scheme to insure solicitors against civil liability for professional negligence.

The claim is that the scheme is a breach of duty.

## Errors by pilot blamed for six crash deaths

A flight to the Isle of Man TT races ended in the death of the pilot and five passengers because the pilot of the private aircraft did not climb to a safe height and was flying on a wrong course, accident investigators reported yesterday.

A Cessna aircraft crashed into a Snowdonia mountain in thick mist and cloud last June.

## By-pass opened

The £22m Cambridge western by-pass was opened yesterday by Mr. Norman Fowler, Minister of Transport.

## Social security official jailed for fraud

From Our Correspondent  
Liverpool

A plan hatched by an executive officer in the Department of Social Security to defraud the public purse of more than £29,000 was uncovered yesterday by Mr. Gerald Clifton, for the prosecution.

David John Jones, aged 28, of Rupert Road, Runcorn, Cheshire, was said to be a former tax officer and customs officer. He pleaded guilty with three other men to charges of conspiracy to defraud. He was jailed by Judge Temple, QC, for three years. The three other men were each jailed for 12 months.

## Minister hints at a shift of funds away from higher education

By Diana Gaddes  
Education Correspondent

The importance of non-advanced further education and training was emphasized by Mr. Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science, in London yesterday.

He hinted at government thinking of a shift of resources from higher education to non-advanced further education.

Mr. Carlisle asked the Association of Colleges for Further and Higher Education, whose conference he was addressing, for their views on the "right" balance between advanced and non-advanced courses. The nation needed well educated well trained manpower at all levels, he said.

Until now, because of the system of "pooling" expenditure for maintained higher education but not for non-advanced further education, the latter had tended to bear the brunt of expenditure restraint. And non-advanced students were not eligible for mandatory awards as were students on advanced courses.

## Man granted bail to aid police

Mr Justice Hodgson granted bail at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to a man facing a robbery charge after a senior police officer from the Operation Countryman team, investigating allegations of police corruption, said it was important that the man should be at liberty.

David Shaw had been committed for trial in custody from Highgate Magistrates' Court, London.

Surrey police, in charge of the robbery case, opposed Mr Shaw's application for bail. After Mr Justice Hodgson heard from Det. Spt. John McLaren, from the Operation Countryman team, that Mr Shaw was assisting them in their inquiries, he granted bail.

Asked how important it was that Mr Shaw should be available, Mr McLaren said: "It is very, very important. It is the type of Countryman evidence we cannot obtain without him being with us."



Scholarship saved: Richard Chau, the Vietnamese refugee who won a scholarship at Chigwell, the public school in Essex, with Mr. Yul Brynner, the American actor, who is paying the first year's boarding fees of about £1,500. The boy's father, who works as a storekeeper, could not afford to send his son, aged 11, to the school, and it was feared he could lose the scholarship, which was won against competition from schools all over Britain.

Richard Chau said yesterday: "How can I thank Mr. Brynner? I did not know of him before today, but he must be a king to act in such a way." Mr. Roger Fincher, his headmaster at Haybridge County Primary School, said they were studying how to raise the money to enable him to complete his studies at Chigwell.

which are more relevant and open up greater employment opportunities, even if they are at a lower academic level?

The Government had taken the step of "capping" the advanced further education pool, so removing "the temptation to local education authorities to plunder non-advanced further education disproportionately," he said.

The Government's plans for 1980-81 provided for spending on home students in advanced courses to remain level, but for a slight growth in non-advanced further education, despite the general cutback on educational expenditure.

The working party into the educational needs of 16 to 19-year-olds, chaired by Mr. Neil Macfarlane, Under-Secretary of State for Education, would be taking a hard look at the factors underlining demand for education and the range of needs that existed, as well as possible obstacles to rationalization, Mr. Carlisle said.

## Protest over fee for Princess Grace

A poetry reading by Princess Grace of Monaco may be "blacklisted" by Cheshire County Council workers in protest at the money she is to be paid at the reading.

Mr. Colin Barnett, north-west regional officer of the TUC and a full-time official of the National Union of Public Employees, said yesterday: "I shall be asking all TUC members to black this performance."

Princess Grace is to appear on stage for an hour with Richard Pascoe, the actor, to-morrow night at Tatton Park, a mansion near Knutsford, Cheshire, in a programme of poetry and prose readings as part of a series of eight recitals by the Princess Grace Foundation, controlled county council.

The series is subsidized by £1,000 from the ratepayers, and trade unionists are angry that the princess will get an undisclosed three-figure sum at a time when the council has announced it is cutting £15m from spending over two years.

## Advice centres may close for lack of support

By Robin Young  
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

One third of Britain's 220 neighbourhood advice centres are facing a big cut in financial support next year. Many will be left without funds and will certainly close, according to a survey conducted by the Advice Centres in Crisis Working Party.

The same group recently forecast that as many as four-fifths of consumer advice centres may soon be forced to close.

Mr. Philip Gage, secretary of the Federation of Independent Advice Centres, said that neighbourhood advice centres serving deprived inner-city areas were reporting a steady increase in the complexity and seriousness of the difficulties brought to them.

## In brief

## Drink killed rock singer

Bon Scott, a rock singer, died from acute alcoholic poisoning after consuming a large quantity of alcohol, Sir Montague Levine, the coroner, said at an inquest at Southwark, London, yesterday. A verdict of death by misadventure was recorded.

The coroner told that Mr. Scott, aged 33, of the rock band, AC/DC, died after a drinking bout last Tuesday. Mr. Scott, of Ashley Court, Westminster, was found dead in a car in East Dulwich, London.

## Asbestososis damages

Mr. Arthur Delfield, aged 51 of Hove, Plymouth, a dockyard worker, who retired early after contracting asbestosis, was awarded £32,000 damages against the Ministry of Defence in the High Court at Exeter yesterday.

## Student falls 40ft

Mr. Stephen Kelly, aged 19, a student at Keele College, Oxford, was taken to hospital with serious injuries after falling 40ft from a drain pipe at the college.

## Homes to be razed

Fourteen council houses on top of a hill are to be demolished and the tenants rehoused in the north Devon coastal village of Hele, near Ilfracombe, after a landslide 13 days ago.

non-advanced vocational courses

The post-Robbins "boom" in higher education has led to a gross mismatch between output and demand for non-advanced courses and relevant jobs, it said. A limit should be imposed on places in non-advanced courses so as to force a change in the ambition and aims of the nation's bright children.

The association rejected central manpower planning by the Government on the ground that such exercises had tended to produce catastrophic results. Instead, it proposed a national tertiary education grants committee to approve courses and distribute resources for all non-advanced, post-school education and training.

On cutting costs, the principals made the remarkable suggestion that higher staff-student ratios could be implemented. They said the insistence on maintaining the ratio was "the restrictive practice of teacher unions and clock-watchers."

## Frau Proll freed after German trial

From Patricia Clough  
Boon, Feb 22

Frau Astrid Proll, aged 32, the former Baader-Meinhof terrorist, was freed after a trial in West Germany.

She was sentenced to five and a half years' jail in Frankfurt today for bank robbery and falsifying documents.

But since she had spent more than two thirds of the sentence in detention in West Germany and British jails, she was excused the rest of her term and was set free.

Dr. Johannes Dierks, the presiding judge, said the court was convinced that Frau Proll had no intention of committing further terrorist crimes, although it regretted the fact that she had not expressly dissociated herself in court from the activities of the Baader-Meinhof gang.

Mr. Heinrich Hannover, one of her lawyers, said Frau Proll intended to return to Britain where she had been working in an East London garage, training young motor mechanics before her arrest in September, 1978.

Frau Proll had become a principal figure in a subtle campaign by the West German authorities to encourage terrorists who wanted to change their ways and return to society. Although the Government could not influence the courts—and had no intention of doing so—strings were pulled in other ways, both psychologically and materially.

Among the various events stage-managed from the higher floors of the Interior Ministry was an interview with Frau Proll in *Stern*, the most widely read weekly, before her return to West Germany. It was hoped

that her description of her new life would prepare public opinion in her favour, and possibly influence other disillusioned terrorists.

Ministry men also engineered an exchange of letters with the Hesse Justice Minister, including one from Herr Baum, the Federal Interior Minister, personally assuring him that Frau Proll had no known contacts with terrorists—which resulted in her being released from jail soon after the start of her trial. This privilege is not extended to unrepentant terrorists.

## Luxembourg staff protest over parliament changes

By David Wood  
European Political Editor

All members of the European Parliament yesterday received a letter of protest from the staff committee representing employees. They are against the decision to eliminate Luxembourg as one of the three working venues of parliament this year—and apparently for good.

The staff committee's protest had been posted on a day when the parliament was discussing a "grand committee" to meet in Brussels to keep up with the increased workload of the directly elected parliament.

For more than 10 years the European Parliament has met alternately in Strasbourg and Luxembourg, although the administrative headquarters of the parliament remain in Luxembourg along with the homes and families of about 1,000 married employees.

## Congress of Italian Christian Democrats spurns cooperation with Communists

From Peter Nichols  
Rome, February 22

The national congress of Italy's governing Christian Democratic Party has ended with what most people see as a shift to the right.

The best tribute to his work came from Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Prime Minister, who said that his friend's secretary had marked a "beautiful and high season of hope in our party."

Nevertheless, the high-minded Signor Zaccagnini was left in a minority and if the party's stance was to be decided by the delegates, it was much less so from his peers on the platform.

The majority, which was formed against him, was conservative, but the political differences were more a matter of approach than of policy.

The document approved by a majority of the faction leaders (but not put to a vote by the delegates) firmly states that "responsibility of administration" with the Communists is not possible because of conflicting views between the two parties on important issues.

## WEST EUROPE



Frau Astrid Proll leaving court yesterday, a free woman.

## Frau Proll freed after German trial

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## Congress of Italian Christian Democrats spurns cooperation with Communists

From Peter Nichols  
Rome, February 22

The national congress of Italy's governing Christian Democratic Party has ended with what most people see as a shift to the right.

The best tribute to his work came from Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Prime Minister, who said that his friend's secretary had marked a "beautiful and high season of hope in our party."

Nevertheless, the high-minded Signor Zaccagnini was left in a minority and if the party's stance was to be decided by the delegates, it was much less so from his peers on the platform.

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Signor Zaccagnini's view was that the nation's problems should be examined without prejudice by all the parties together, including the Communists.

Some of the Socialists have already expressed themselves in favour of bringing down Signor Cossiga's Government. The Christian Democrats would see themselves in an embarrassing position if, having moved away from the Communists, they find the Socialists more demanding.

## Unesco commission recommends free flow of information

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Feb 22

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After two years of work the International Commission for the Study of Communications Problems, presided over by Mr. Sean MacBride, presented its voluminous five-part report today to Mr. Amadou Mahtar Mbow, the Secretary-General of Unesco, under whose aegis it was set up in November 1977.

Considering the careful balance in the composition of the commission—half Western, Communist and developing countries, and their widely differing conceptions of the role of the press and of information—a taste of which was provided by the discussion at the Unesco General Assembly in 1978 on a declaration on the role of the media—a surprising measure of agreement was achieved in the report.

But this agreement was often achieved on the lowest common denominator and at the cost of generalizations and even of contradictions, between, for instance, the condemnation of censorship and the provision for "reasonable restrictions" on freedom of information.

Even so the Soviet member and director-general of Tass raised strong objections on this and several other points, which are recorded in the report.

Mr. MacBride expressed the hope that the report would contribute to a more just world information order, and have an impact not only on governments but on all those who deal with information.

The report, he insisted, was not merely, as one questioner suggested, a compendium of platitudes. In spite of the gulf between the approach of Western and Communist countries to information it is remarkable that we could obtain such a remarkable degree of consensus," he stressed.

"The gulf was greater when the commission started than when it concluded its work. The members from socialist countries were quite far in accepting the recommendations of the majority of the commission." He gave as an example their agreement to the statement that freedom of information is a basic right, the right to seek, to receive, and to impart information.

The chairman pointed out that all 82 recommendations were not accepted by every one of the 16 members of the commission.

The most difficult questions for the commission had been those of freedom of information, censorship, the protection of journalists, and their free access to sources of information.

## Objection to recommendation

Mr. Moser also recorded a dissenting opinion on the recommendation that censorship and all arbitrary control of information be abolished. This, he stated, was a matter for national governments within the framework of each country's legislation and interests.

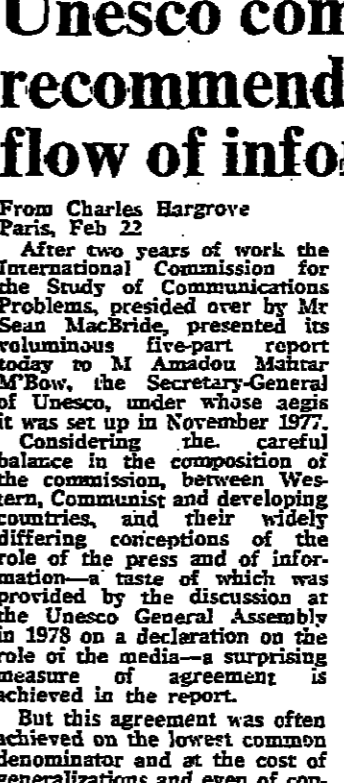
But disagreement did not only come from the socialist countries. Mr. Elie Abel, the American member, had strong objections to the setting up, within the framework of Unesco, of an international centre for the study and planning of information, which he regarded as "premature, unnecessary, and dangerous."

He was supported by Miss Betty Zimmerman, of Canada.

Mr. Abel, in the name of free enterprise, also recorded an objection to another recommendation about the negative effects of financial or commercial considerations on national and international communications.

He also felt that legislation to limit concentrations and monopolies in the field of information was only conceivable in countries where a degree

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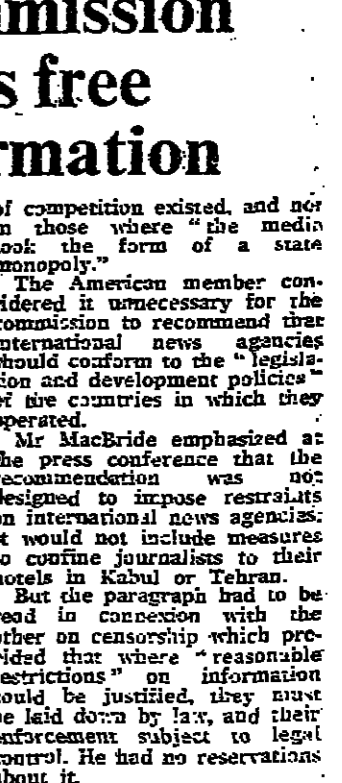
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## OVERSEAS

# Lord Soames to decide whether further steps are needed to curb Rhodesia election coercion

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, Feb 22

Lord Soames, Governor of Southern Rhodesia, is to decide this weekend whether to take further steps to curb the level of political intimidation that is still prevalent in several parts of the country.

The measures that he could take include banning a party from contesting next week's election in certain districts; banning individuals from campaigning; holding election meetings; or even disenfranchising individuals in areas where intimidation is said to be so bad that a free and fair poll cannot be held.

However, a Government spokesman emphasized today that the Governor had still not made a final decision whether or not further action was required. For the past few days he has been having consultations with election supervisors, senior members of the Commonwealth Monitoring Force and black party leaders before making up his mind.

The spokesman said the situation was still very bad in parts of the north-east of the country, Manicaland and Victoria provinces. However, in the country as a whole the situation was becoming better not worse, he added.

It is understood that several black political leaders, among them Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr James Chikerema, have asked Lord Soames to take firm action against Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party.

The spokesman complained that Zanu (PF) has been preventing their parties from campaigning in areas where it is well established. They have threatened to reject the result of the election unless the Governor acts to rectify the situation.

Their accusations would seem to be supported by the Cease-fire Commission which has found Zanu, the military wing of Mr Mugabe's party, responsible for most breaches of the ceasefire. Out of a total of 207 confirmed breaches 99 have been the responsibility of Zanu and a further 35 have taken place in Zanu's former area of operation.

The Cease-fire Commission is chaired by Major-General John Acland, the Governor's military adviser, and includes senior members of the Rhodesian security forces, Zanu and Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zippa army.

The commission has still not attributed blame for the attack on a civilian bus near Rusape, in which 16 people were killed, to either side according to a spokesman. Fresh evidence had been made available.

Meanwhile both Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe have agreed to a request by the Governor to make broadcasts calling on their guerrillas in the assembly areas to remain where they are during the election.

The request was made in response to growing fears that some guerrillas might be tempted to leave the assembly points if they felt the election results were not going their way.

A complaint about the UANC rally was also made to Sir John Boynton, the Election Commissioner, during a meeting today of the Election Council. He has referred the matter to the police.

Another complaint, of a different nature, is being made by Mr John Mathew, the British election supervisor in Wedza, who today found black members of the Rhodesian Police putting people on a bus to take them to the UANC rally.

When he explained to the 30 people on the bus that they did not have to go, a cheer went up and the people got off the bus again.

He did the same with another bus which the police were also filling up with people to attend the jamboree. Mr Mathew said he had raised a matter at the local police station but they denied any knowledge of it.

He said he was now referring it to Sir John Boynton.

Mr Eric Pope-Simmonds, the Registrar-General, said today that complaints made by political parties about the holding of a four-day jamboree in Salisbury by the UANC have been referred to the Attorney-General.

The complaints refer mainly to the distribution by the UANC of free food and drinks to anyone attending the rally. Under Section 3 of the Electoral Act any person or party who pro-

vides food, drink or entertainment for the purpose of influencing voters can be found guilty of the offence of "treating".

Mr Eddison Zvogbo, Zanu (PF) election director, said his party was also applying for a High Court order to prevent the rally from continuing. He accused Bishop Muzorewa of trying to win people's votes through three free meals a day just before the election.

Mr Zvogbo said Zanu did nothing to assist under-nourished people when he was Prime Minister but was now offering three free meals a day just before the election.

The election council also heard a complaint by Zanu (PF) about 96 members of Zanu who are reported "missing" while being held in custody.

The men were part of a group of 119 guerrillas from Belingwe tribal trust land who gave themselves up to the police a month ago, and asked to be taken to a guerrilla assembly area as they are entitled to under the Lancaster House agreement.

They were taken into detention in Shabani.

After repeated requests by Zanu (PF) the party has been informed that 12 are being held in Fort Victoria prison, nine in Gwelo prison but the rest are unaccounted for.

Mr Zvogbo said Zanu (PF) had been told unofficially they had been made to join the security force auxiliaries, but he said he believed they had been massacred and buried in a shallow grave east of Salisbury.

A British spokesman said that a total of 31,909 refugees had returned to Rhodesia from Botswana, Zambia and Mozambique since the repatriation programme organized by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees began a month ago.

He said that complaints that 12 refugees returning from Zambia had been tortured during interrogation were still being investigated.

He regretted that these complaints had caused interruption of the repatriation programme from Zambia. The return of refugees had been suspended for the election period.

Mr Leigh Fernor, who lives in Mani, southern Greece, said he was surprised, surprised and grateful. "I love Greece," he said, "and I have been involved with it all my grown-up life. This is a marvellous surprise and a great honour."

Although Mr Leigh Fernor's powerful descriptive books, by capturing the spirit as well as the beauty of Greece, have greatly enhanced the country's popularity abroad, he is best known to the Greeks for his role in the kidnapping of Major-General Heinrich Kreipe, the German commandant in Crete.

Everything depends on the reaction of Zanu (PF) and Zanu, if the calculation is correct. There are about 15,000 Zanu men in the assembly areas under the eyes of the monitoring group. They may have another 6,000 still in Mozambique and Tanzania and there could be 2,000 on the loose inside Rhodesia.

The British interpretation of recent signals from President Sam Nkomo of Mozambique is that he will not allow Zanu men to return to their former bases in his country. But he could come under pressure from the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and Tanzania to reverse this attitude.

Without external bases, Zanu is potentially doomed, and the Rhodesian forces might find overwhelming the temptation to remove it from the board altogether.

A not unimportant related question is where all this leaves the monitoring group in the light of the prospect of a renewal of fighting and bloodshed. The purely military view, strongly held by General Acland in the interest of the 1,400 men under his command, is to withdraw the monitoring group before March 4.

But pressure from all parties to keep them on for rather longer is growing.

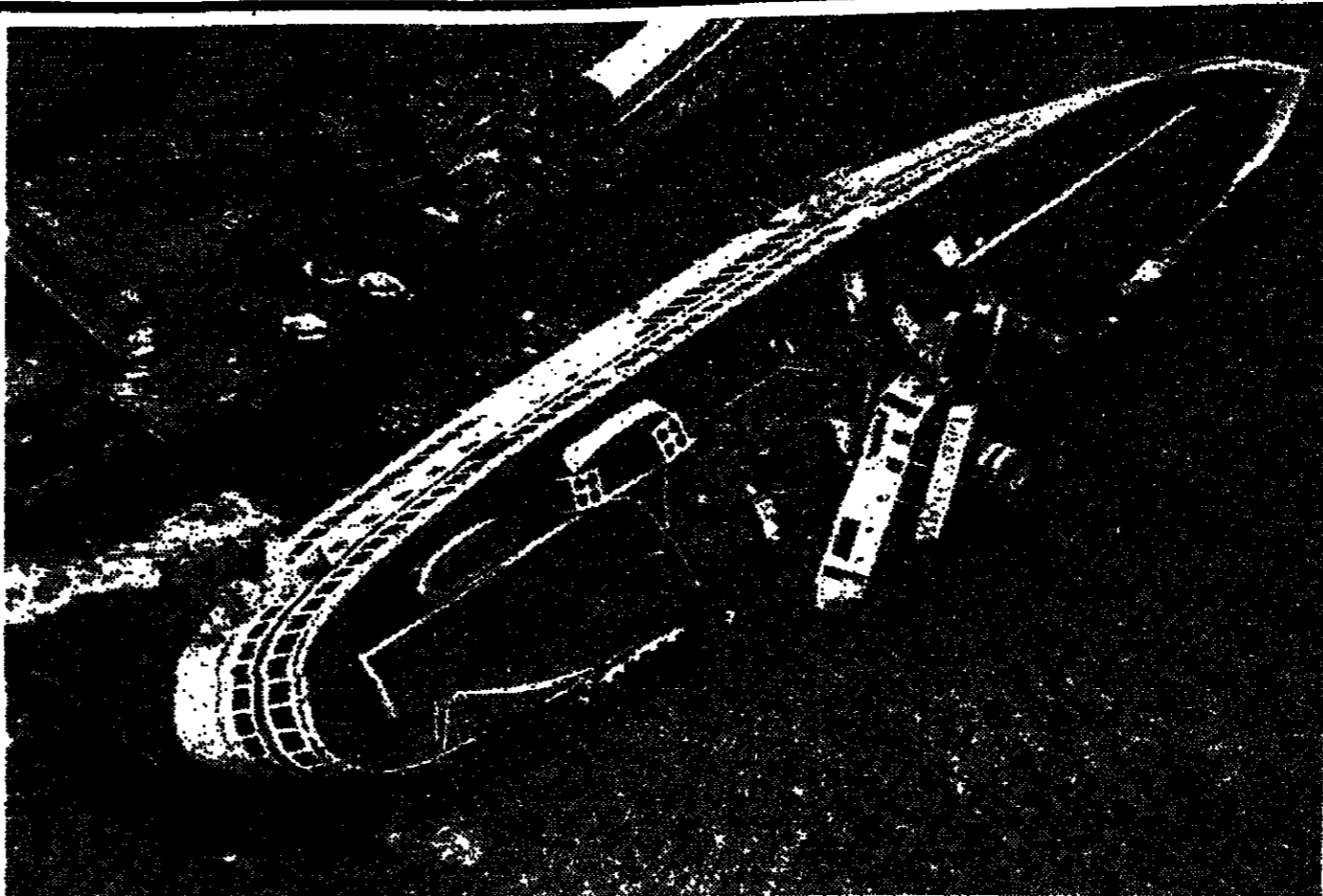
British complaint: Sir Jeffrey Petersen, the British Ambassador in Salisbury, has complained to the Swedish government officials signing a petition criticizing alleged British malpractices in Rhodesia, the embassy said today.

Sir Jeffrey said that it was inappropriate for Mr Thorp, a member of the Swedish Foreign Ministry to have signed the document, which said that Lord Soames was allowing election and other irregularities.

Mr Brezhnev said that all important decisions on curbing the arms race adopted at international forums in the past decade and all the most important talks on these matters were the result of initiatives from the communist countries.

He said that nobody could intimidate the Soviet Union. No one would, succeed in provoking the Soviet Union, he replied to the doctrine of military hysteria and a frenzied arms race, it offered "the doctrine of consistent struggle for peace and security on earth."

The Soviet leader, who spoke for almost an hour to a vast audience in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, spoke firmly and reasonably distinctly, and seemed fitter and in better health than he has appeared for some time.



The battered former cruise ship, Lady Alexander, lies on its side in the Redondo Beach Marina on the California coast after a week of storms.

## Briton joins Athens Academy

From Mario Modiano Athens, Feb 22

The Academy of Athens has elected Mr Patrick Leigh Fermor, the British author, as a corresponding member in the class of fine arts and letters. The recommendation was initiated by Mr Rangelos Kanellopoulos, the former Prime Minister and philosopher, and was carried at the plenary session of the Academy, yesterday by 31 votes and one blank, an unusually high rating.

The citation was proposed by Mr Constantine Ispantzi, for long a professor of modern Greek at Oxford, and was seconded by Mr Niko Hatzikyriakos-Ghika, the artist.

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## West Bengal Marxists distrust Mrs Gandhi's intentions

From William Frankel Calcutta, Feb 22

The words of the internal political storm in India over the dissolution of nine state legislatures moved yesterday to Calcutta, the capital of West Bengal. A resolution of the legislative assembly moved by Mr Iqbal Singh, the chief minister, recorded "its strongest disapproval of this undemocratic and authoritarian act," which, it said, was "striking at the root of the federal structure of India envisaged under the constitution."

While the impassioned debate was proceeding in the assembly, a protest rally was held in the centre of the city.

The seething streets of Calcutta, almost impenetrable at the best of times, were today a scene of chaos. A large number of people were gathered in the streets, and the atmosphere was one of tension and unrest.

Mr Basu agreed that in the case of West Bengal the Prime Minister could not adduce the same reasons she had given this week for dissolving the other nine state assemblies. But, he added, she could always trump up some other pretext for dissolution, possibly by stimulating disorders.

With the qualification that the lady is frequently unpredictable, Mr Basu believed the danger was not imminent. "We won such a terrific victory here that I think she will wait for a while. In any case, I do not think anything will happen until the elections here in the states which she hopes will give her a majority in the Upper House."

Those election results, he believed, could have another vital political consequence. If her party failed to win the nine states Mr Basu would not exclude the possibility that Mrs Gandhi might again impose emergency rule.

The ideological of the West Bengal Communist Party (Marxist) and secretary of its state committee is Mr Das Gupta. He is said to be the authoritative figure in the Teliburo.

In the dilapidated structure in a Calcutta alley which serves as the party headquarters and its printing press, Mr Das Gupta told me that they were prepared for dissolution of the state.

One Janata Party leader in West Bengal is Mr P. C. Sen, a former Chief Minister and the rallying point for the anti-Marxist forces in the state. A vigorous man of 83, and a widely respected leader, unpretentious and incorruptible in the Mahatma Gandhi mold, he was no less apprehensive than his Marxist opponents of the Prime Minister's tendencies. "I believe she is moving towards dictatorship," he told me.

The five-member commission of inquiry going to Iran as part of a United Nations-sponsored package deal to free the American Embassy hostages is due to leave for Tehran in a special aircraft at noon tomorrow.

Mr Muhammad Bedjaoui, of Algeria, and Mr Louis-Edmond Pettit, of France, are returning from Tehran. They will be joined in time to travel with the three other commission members.

The three spent the day here conferring on procedures. They were visited by Mr Martin Ennals, of Amnesty International, and Mr Eric Sottas, the secretary-general of Pax Romana.

The departure of the commission will crown three months of behind-the-scenes negotiations by Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, to free the 49 hostages. It is not clear whether there is a firm commitment that, in exchange for the release of the hostages, the United Nations will investigate the alleged Iranian involvement in the seizure of the ship.

Recognition by Turkey of the Athens flight information boundary, would make it easier for Greek aircraft to fly over the Aegean. The instruction was code-named "Notam 714".

The move, quite unexpected in Athens, came just after the Greek Government rejected the latest formula for the military reintegration of Greece in Nato. The rejection seemed motivated mainly by fears in Athens that arrangements under this formula could prejudice the dispute with Turkey.

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## Turkey gives in over Aegean flight controls

From Our Own Correspondent Athens, Feb 22

Turkey notified the Greek civil aviation authority today that it has revoked flight instructions to aircraft which have been at the root of the Greek-Turkish dispute over air traffic control in the Aegean since 1974.

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At the height of the Cyprus crisis in August, 1974, Turkey instructed all aircraft flying over the Aegean, an area within the jurisdiction of the Athens flight information region by international agreement, to identify themselves to the Turkish authorities not at the Greek-Turkish boundary, but further west over the Aegean. The instruction was code-named "Notam 714".

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## British fund may buy rare books in US

From Michael Leppman New York, Feb 22

The British Rail Pension Fund will buy a substantial part of a collection of rare gardening books worth \$157,000 (about £69,000) if a New York court approves the sale. The books belong to the Horticultural Society of New York, which can no longer afford to insure, maintain and protect them.

The collection of some 3,000 horticultural books and manuscripts from the fifteenth to the nineteenth centuries is probably the most complete in the United States and perhaps in the world. Most of the books were acquired by Sir Kenneth Mackenzie, a New York lawyer, who bequeathed them to the society in 1934.

In 1970 it was catalogued by Miss Elizabeth Hall, now 82, who said today that the most attractive features of many of the works are the illustrations. Complete copies of illustrated horticultural books become rarer as print dealers tear out the pages to sell them separately.

The earliest work is the *Herbarium of Apuleius Barbarus*, the fifth century Greek herbalist. The copy in the collection was printed in Rome in 1483, wrote the first edition of the first printed book of illustrations of plants, according to Miss Hall. The most important sixteenth century items are Sir Francis Drake's notebooks on plants.

There is a copy of Dr Thomson's *Temple of Flora* (1812), and of the scholarly work by Robert Fortune on the cultivation of tea in China. He was commissioned by the Royal Horticultural Society in the middle of the nineteenth century to visit the Orient to discover the secrets of cultivating the soothing crop.

Quaritch's, the London rare book dealers, have helped to arrange the sale. Part of the collection will go to the British Rail Pension Fund, which already has a substantial collection of books on botany. The remainder will go to an arboretum in Belgium.

The sale is subject to approval by the New York State Supreme Court, because the society is supported by the state.

Mr Charles Webster, the president of the society, said today that he understood that as a condition of the sale both purchasers had undertaken to make the books available to scholars. But Lord Parmoor, the chairman of Quaritch's, said in New York today that he did not believe this to be the case with the books sold to the pension fund.

At least three Iranian cities, including a crowd of over 100,000 at mass prayers in Tehran, the President said. "Those who allow themselves to be attacked by other groups under the pretext of supporting the Islamic revolution... will be dealt with like counter-revolutionaries."

His warning came as groups of Muslim fundamentalists wielding knives, clubs and stones, attacked supporters of the Mujahadeen guerrillas in movement in Qaem Shahr, Shiraz and Gorgan for the second day running.

Revolutionary guards in Qaem Shahr, close to the Caspian Sea, said by telephone that about 500 people had been injured in two days of clashes. The fundamentalist Hezbollah, made up largely of unemployed city youths, have no known activity other than political violence.

In Qaem Shahr, the Hezbollah occupied the Mujahadeen headquarters today. Iran's official Pars news agency said at least 300 people had been wounded in yesterday's clashes alone and many more were injured today.

The agency also reported fighting in the north-eastern town of Gorgan, where police and army guards fired into the air and used tear gas to control the rioters. —Reuter.

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## Dr Kaunda eludes assassins

From Frederick Cleary Salisbury, Feb 22

President K. Kaunda of Zambia narrowly escaped an assassination attempt by nine Army officers, according to reports reaching Salisbury.

The Observer reported here today quoting "military intelligence sources" that the murder attempt was made one night in the last week of January. The officers, all familiar figures in State House, tried to take power in the country by killing the President.

He was chased through the presidential residence and finally forced to take refuge on the roof. Security guards were alerted and the Army called in.

The nine officers were captured only minutes before they could reach the President. They were taken to maximum security prison in Lusaka where they were interrogated and hanged.

## Water shortage brings power cuts to Kenya

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, Feb 22

Electricity supplies in Kenya are being cut by up to a quarter because low water levels in the main hydroelectric dams on the slopes of Mount Kenya have made it necessary to reduce the number of turbines in use.

Mr Julius Gecau, the chairman of the power company, said that rationing of power would probably continue until April, when rain is expected.

Regular power cuts are being made on a rotating system in both residential and industrial areas. After many cases of people trapped in lifts during power cuts, lift maintenance companies here have insisted that lifts should be taken out of service altogether while there is a danger of unscheduled power cuts.

## Soviet protest over shot fired at UN mission

Moscow, Feb 22.—The Soviet Union has protested to the United States over a shot that was fired at its United Nations mission in New York yesterday.

Tass in a dispatch from New York, the agency said: "The bullet entered the living accommodation occupied by a woman and a child. It is only due to happy coincidence that this attempt on the life of Soviet people failed to cause any casualties."

New York, police confirmed today that a shot had been fired at the building housing the Soviet mission.

Tass said a formal Note had been sent to the United States mission at the United Nations saying: "While expressing the most resolute protest, the Soviet Union mission demands an investigation into the incident."

## Mr Nkomo may head three-party coalition

Continued from page 1

But there has not yet been a four-cornered meeting, I understand, involving General Acland and all three military commanders. Nor has there any early prospect of one.

The present pattern of communication on this subject looks like a square with both diagonals pencilled in but one side as yet undrawn.

General Acland is talking to all three commanders. General Wallis is talking to the British and Zippa, and Zanu is talking to Zippa and the British. The missing link (the undrawn side of the square) is the absence of contact between General Wallis and Zanu.

The two nationalist leaders and their military commanders are in Parliament







# Chilling shades and clear colours of Shostakovich

recording of Bruckner's No. 1, is equally well matched with his work. Though still building a musical relationship with Schubert and Wagner, Bruckner is in no way fearful of a lack of certainty in what he was doing, and so this first symphony has the bumptiousness which is so often to be found in such of a middle-aged man. It is not an easy character to bring off, but Jochum manages to identify himself wholly with it, and to make it a matter of intent, marking the ready influences but showing too the ready individuality of the style. And the Dresden players bring their own contribution to a strongly performed performance.

Sir Adrian Boult's Parry record, on the other hand, is a wholly misplaced token of esteem and trust. Parry's music is too conscious, its accents are very much those of Brahms, is unquestionably strong and sincere: the trouble is that he has absolutely nothing to say. We are therefore faced with a music which is the work of an immensely serious style clothing musical platitudes in the shape of undistinguished themes and bald repetition, for none of these three works has any of the qualities which are the basis of Parry's choral works. All is magnificent emptiness.

Lack of ideas was, of course, never a problem for the young Briten, two of whose song cycles make up the programme for an interestingly international recording. Though Robert Tear, for all his intelligent points of phrasing and expression, cannot dismiss the memories of Peter Peters that linger around the vocal lines, the orchestral performance is more convincing. The vocal Giulini clearly has no time for English understatement, and he pounds out the accompaniment to the Serenade's Tennyson setting, for instance, with unshakable confidence and a strong sense of resolve. It makes little difference whether his orchestra is from Chicago (in the Serenade) or London (in *Les illuminations*): the effect is of war with the soloist and vastly exaggerated.

An inappropriate style also afflicts Lord Maazel's Debussy disc, where performance and recording combine to offer glossy colours and clear statement instead of hint and subterfuge. The swirling glimmers of light and colour, the shimmering account of *Jour*, is enhanced by forced rhythms and heavily marked accelerations, features which are of course wholly absent from a delicious reissue of

Beethoven in French music. This offers a fresh, spry, pungent *Prelude à l'opéra* mid *d'un faune*, a real relish of showiness in dance and drama. The *Suite* is an exquisite performance of Faure's *Dolly Suite*, to name just a few tracks from two well-filled sides.

For the vocal matters occupy Itzhak Perlman and Seiji Ozawa in their record of twentieth-century violin concertos, though there is nothing ponderous about them. The German violinist, the Berg has rarely been equalled for warmth and naturalness in the accompaniment, which does not disguise the fact that he is not quite making everything flow out of and back into the most consonant harmony. Also exceptional is the performance by Perlman, with the world's dramatic violinist, of expressive detail but stays pure in tone. He tellingly adopts a darker, more resinous sound for the Stravinsky, with a more brilliant, more brilliant spirit of the music, and Ozawa is efficient here in laying down a clear grid of balanced tempos and textures.

Bernstein's *Serenade* is also a valuable record, in the form of a set of character sketches of guests at Plato's *Symposium*. The idea is intriguing and very effectively carried out, for the composer's hosts of characters, the world's dramatic violinist, and Broadway is justified by the variety of personalities to be introduced, from the solemn Socrates to the impulsive Alcibiades who bursts in late in the night of the movements. The coupling, *Fancy Free*, has the special attraction of Bernstein himself playing and singing, if in rather lugubrious fashion, his blues and ballads. The start and finish of the score.

Even more of a curiosity is his performance of Beethoven's *opus 131 Quartet* with the full strings of the Vienna Philharmonic, came to this without any prejudice, and the difficulty in staying with it to the end and not switching to a quartet recording, for the amplification quite destroys the privacy and the conversational quality of the music. The only gain is in the scherzo-like fifth movement, where the large body can add a weighty vigour that is entirely fitting. Otherwise I see no point in the enterprise, and I find it mystifying that Bernstein should have recorded this in the sleeve note, feel that this performance is the proudest conducting achievement of his life". Prouder than *Fidelio*, or the *Missa solennis*, or Mahler's second symphony? Really?

Paul Griffiths

## Paul Griffiths



The Record of Singing, Vol. 2  
1914-1925. HMV RS 743 (13  
discs with book included),  
£65.00.

As two years ago with Volume 1 of Michael Scott's history, by song and ear of the part of singing since the invention of the gramophone, one must first express admiration for the loving research generously applied in the selection of photographs and recorded examples, many very rare or hitherto unpublished, as well as biographical information and artistic appraisal. The great variety of subjects discussed, but not dozens of others, now almost forgotten save by a few enthusiasts, such as Mr Scott, who can explain their special qualities and relevance in this century; also the dedicatees, Vivian Liff and George Stuart, whose collection provided much of the material here published.

Within the period under review, the volume discusses the Russian song of the *Revolution* (*Verismo* not excluding Spain), the English-speaking world and the Germans. Thus, for example, Russian singing is taken from middle-period Chaliapin to early Nina Koshetz, neither of them, however, a *Verismo* singer, but all to exemplify some trait of personality or style at the time. There is fine, flumi-

nauding representation of Baklanov, whose bold style matches his picturesque casker, of Lipnitsky, whose vocal range and other talents also with recognizable merits, and defects; there are some poor recordings carefully transferred to LP but correct.

A chapter on "The French Tradition in Decline" contrariwise establishes the fine standard of vocalism and artistry there pertaining in France: the singing of the great tenor, Paul Franz, the smooth and volatile tenor of René Lepelletier in Ambroise Thomas's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, Edvina in a famous and ravishingly beautiful *Les Huguenots*. Heidy who entranced me in French opera about a quarter-century later at Wigmore Hall, and Georgeette Leblanc whom Maeterlinck vastly enjoyed and whom I have first Méliande (Debussy was right). In this chapter, elsewhere too, Mr Scott sometimes analyzes into disapproval an interpretation or a voice audibly less appealing than he will grant.

In the *Verismo* section, the author begins eloquently with Muzio, supporting his encomia with a moving "Io son l'umile ancella". Later there is bad and good singing, rather than the usual dream musicings and uncommon repertory. He is less than just to Glilda Dallas

Rizza and surely, Martiniello, Elvira de Hidalgo and Lucrèzia Bori are splendidly represented, and soon from Mazza's *Campanone* instantly recruited me the fan-club of Emilio Sagi-Barba.

Those of us who, too readily, assumed that Kappeler and Amann can linger, were no match for their continental contemporaries had better listen to Almano Gluck in Lowe, Alfred Picavere in Gluck in Leber, and the *Don Giovanni* of the Mazza, too. Ponselle and indeed John McCormack. The German chapter includes a 1922 recording, commendable, of a solo from Janáček's *Jenůfka* (and for one who does not like to read Mr Scott's scathing comments). There is some early Elena Gerhardt, the voice still light and girlish, though already the chest voice is firm. There is also a 1922 recording of the *Don Giovanni* from Lehár's Paganini, Lotte Lehmann a glorious Tosca, neither Jertiza nor Elisabeth Schumann is heard at best, none Gerard Kappeler and Amann. Good news from Tabor to Kipivud (active in Germany then) are strongly represented. We end with some early, no more than promising, Melchior who is due to start the forthcoming, and to the Mazza's collection, well worth the high price asked, if only for its future rarity value.

William Mann

**William Manno**

# A revelation of changes in Mozartian performing standards

the works in this first issue of the Academy of Ancient Music recording are barely recognizable as music. There we had Böhm's light, airy, warm, string-saturated sound, a marked emphasis on the first violin line as the centre of gravity (and gravity is the word) and steady tempos.

Jaap Schröder (leading from the first violin) and Christopher Hogwood (at the keyboard, when that still permitted) have quite different ideas. The slender, more evanescent, less sustained sound of authentic instruments creates a texture that is lighter and more transparent than the contributions of the wind and the interior strings is altogether more forward and more telling. Tempos are livelier, articulation is sharper, lines are less continuous, rhythms are more pointed. The brilliant Trejor symphonies, too, accordingly, make a different effect. Here and there the slow movements seem deficient in contrast, sometimes even deficient in expressiveness. But by and large these are, quite literally, revelatory perfor-

manifes—revealing more of the notes that Mozart wrote than he have ever before heard, and indeed making his orchestration sound more varied and more effective than it usually does. There are no very important works on this first release: the A major K134 is however a little masterpiece, as is the overture-style E flat work K184 (done with tremendous fire); K132 is another piece full of original and attractive things.

Bach's *Magnificat* is chiefly familiar in its D major form: but the E flat version recorded here is different in much of its detail (its scoring in particular), and includes some music designed to make it serve for liturgical use at Christmas—Bach's first Christmas in Leipzig, in fact, that of 1723. The later version is the more polished and more effective, but the softer tone of the present one, enhanced here by the Academy's authentic instruments, is extremely attractive, as indeed are the Christmas interpolations. There is gentle-toned church singing from the Christ Church choir.

mostly quite confident in attack and ensemble. The soloists, especially the sopranos, have one or two hints of insecurity in Bach's cruelly instrumental lines, but all is tasteful and stylish.

Philips have launched a "Living Baroque" series with no pretensions of authenticity (and inclusion of a reissue of Claudio Monteverdi's recording carries the baroque practically to 1790). The first records I have heard from the series bring the Bach unaccompanied violin music. No one has yet offered these works on a baroque violin; I wish someone would, as it could gain much from the slightly different, differently gauged bridge. Still, Felix Ayo's performances, if up against formidable rivals in the catalogue, are clean and unaffected, rhythmically very alert (with well-marked agogic accents emphasizing the structure), and with an eagerness to play like the little, well-shaped account of the best Chaconne, which lacks nothing in brilliance or drama. The fact that the six works are packed on to two discs—they

have always occupied three before will also endorse this set to buyers.

No pretensions to authenticity, either, about the Berlin Philharmonic in Vivaldi. The new Deutsche Grammophon set does not of course offer the assembled might of that orchestra in this set of concertos. The players are a hand-picked group—an elite of the elite, in fact. This is beautifully precise and sweet-toned playing, springy of rhythm and light of foot in the quick music, sometimes a little slower and heavier than one might prefer in the slow. They play concertos Nos. 10 and 11 (the latter arguably Vivaldi's masterpiece), that Bach arranged. Here is a set of records where sheer excellence of playing outweighs everything, authenticity included.

Back to authenticity, however, for the Archiv releases. For the "Grand Concert" it is specially welcome. This tuneful and spirited music by Englishmen of and just after Handel's day, some native and

some adoptive, profits greatly from the liche and airy playing of Trevor Pinnock's admirable group. The Corelli-Geminiani-like *folia* variations do not, it must be excite me, brilliantly touch them; they are done; but the pieces are not. They are, however, the show, the native compositions kept its character and was neither swamped nor crowded out by Handel.

The three-disc Gesualdo set contains some remarkable music, though I confess to wondering whether it is not often more remarkable than beautiful. Still, a note of passion is certainly to be heard in these Holy Week responses, and in their strange and disorientating harmonic twists and their intense textures. The Montserrat choir sing them in a rather grand and lofty manner, which is enhanced by the resonant acoustic. I would on the whole prefer a style more precise and perhaps less expressive, but certainly the richness and the mystical character of the music are finely caught here.

Stanley Sadie

## Stanley Sadie

Debussy : Pelléas et Mélisande.  
Stade/Schellwyl / VO - Dam/Rat-  
mond/Milashkina / VO/Karajan. RM  
10712 (2 discs), [ ] TC SL8  
5191, £15.95.

Tchaikovsky : Eugene Onegin.  
Milashkina / Ginyavskyas/Alexan-  
ter / Masurok / Nesengenko / O-  
negin / Karajan. HMV SL8  
5191 (3 discs), [ ] TC SL8  
5191, £11.95.

Mozart : Il sogno di Scipione.  
Grimm / Grether / Grether/  
Schreier Ahnke Salzburg  
Mozarteum Orchestra / Hager.  
DG 2740 218 (3 discs), £12.50.

Verdi : Requiem. Scotti/Balza/  
Balza / Verdi / Verdi / Verdi / Ver-  
brobian Chorus / Philharmonia Or-  
chestra/Muti. HMV SL8 5185  
(2 discs), £10.75.

Herbert von Karajan has con-  
ducted one of the most desirable  
accounts of Debussy's *Pelléas et*  
*Mélisande*. The record, since he  
is generally at his finest in opera  
much may be expected of EMI's  
new *Pelléas et Mélisande* which  
he conducts, even though he is  
publicly associated with the work.

His reading will not appeal to  
those who believe that *Pelléas*  
should be all understatement,  
his face expressive as against  
Wagner. Karajan's reading does  
not lack the frank excitement of  
high passion, particularly  
where Golaud's jealous fury is  
concerned, or even the uncer-  
tainly but certainly not over-  
moderate Debussy's musical  
often prescribes *fortissimo*,  
and Karajan obliges;  
main forte and even mezzo  
forte sometimes sound more  
heroic than the context sug-  
gests. But Karajan is well-  
fingered, scrupulously attentive  
to detail, distinguished by the  
glorious playing of his own  
orchestra, the Berlin Philhar-  
monic, as well as the carefully  
prepared vocalists. In Act I,  
the first scene, Act II (side two  
in this set and others) shows the  
performance at its best, cool  
and airy, exquisitely blended  
and graded orchestral music,  
nature and grace in vocal per-  
formance, an attractive acoustic.  
Karajan brings the first inter-  
lude cleanly into the *Parfais*  
net.

The title-parts are sensitively  
taken by Richard Sillwell and  
Paris Opera's vocalists, and  
Eugene Onegin's production of  
1977, he all boyish ardour, most  
impressive in Pelléas's extended  
avowal of love, beginning "A  
voix, ta voix". In the penulti-  
mate scene she gentle and  
withdrawn, the orchestra  
gradually developing into a  
woman pervaded by love—the  
monologue "mes longs  
cheveux" declaimed with sur-  
prising fervour, marks the first  
linking of transformation. Some  
listeners may prefer a soprano  
Mélisande and a tenor Pelléas,  
in the CBS recording conducted  
by Boulez, where George Shirley  
and Elisabeth Söderström sing  
the lovers; comparison between  
the two sets, given impartiality

singers, is topical in Britain, since Mark Ermer is also to conduct the Welsh National  
Opera's new production next  
week, and Yvonne Romain  
even now plays the title part  
at the Royal Garden.

In this Onegin I miss the  
distinctive touches and magical  
musical nuances which are  
to the point in the Russian  
opera. He is apt to hector his  
listeners; but then, they too  
sing as if to a large public hall,  
rather than to one intimate  
audience. In opera and opera,  
not the affectation of the  
"lyric scenes" intended by  
the composer. Ermer conducted  
a brisk, not insensitive, responsi-  
ble and responsible performance  
of the chorus singing. The most  
effective solo singing is heard  
from the Olga and Gremia in the  
admirable Nesterenko's  
duet. The vocal parts sing  
shrilly. The recorded acoustics  
often sounds inappropriate. The  
Decca, Solisti set, is preferable, it  
does not idealise.

The latest addition to the  
series of Mozart's early operas  
being revived annually by Salz-  
burg Mozarteum, brings us  
*Scipio's Dream* to the hero's  
Mexican setting between Constan-  
ce and Fortune. The cast is well  
chosen, the three tenors and  
two sopranos (one kindly, the  
other impatient) are nicely dif-  
ferentiated. Edith Matthis ap-  
pears only in the concluding im-  
provisation to Hieronymus, Salz-  
burg's new Archbishop, who  
graciously sings a neatly  
grammatical (a shortage of  
musical apparatus appoggiaturas)  
some poor Italian pronunciation,  
and some plodding, as well as  
as some spry tempo from the  
pold. The performance in Janu-  
ary 1979 was a world premiere, since  
some scholars now doubt  
whether *Scipione* was given or  
the occasion for what is the  
first time it was staged  
some years ago at a Camden  
Festival in London.

All but seven years ago  
Ricardo Muti conducted a bril-  
liant, compulsive Verdi produc-  
tion, and it was clear that it was  
clear that very soon Giulini's  
hair-presumptive on this territory  
would be acknowledged.  
Fortunately Muti waited half a  
dozen years, and how many  
more there before attempting a re-  
corded interpretation. The ex-  
travagances and damp patches  
have now, respectively, been re-  
named and unified, the comedi-  
cally few were removed, the  
tragedy remained. Already in  
repeats repeated listening, al-  
though some idiosyncracies be-  
come even more tiresome after  
a while. EMI have given Verdi  
and Muti a full, undisputed  
lively pathos, so that the  
tragic uniqueness of the opening  
cannot compete against the  
aeroplane several miles away  
but the fortissimi do not disor-  
der even with Renata Scotti in  
squally top register.

The squalls are a serious  
drawback, but the phib-

On that account, shows greater imagination on Karajan's part, a lovely, often sophisticated recording by EMI.

Josef Van Dam, the Golaud, has the weight of voice and personality to surmount Karajan's forceful depictions of (clearly) manic rage, implicit almost from the start in the first act, and even though it must be added that Van Dam is as eloquent in Golaud's sickness and his ultimate remorse. A fine Arikel, a Genevieve who does less than justice in the letter-reading, an Edmundo, a young, and a youngish, voice and crumpled psyche, and Pascal Thomas who doubles as Pachel and Doctor respectively complete the cast. For the most authentic traditional reading of *Pelléas et Mélisande*, one must go to the original (now available on Decca). In Desormières and his Paris cast of the 1940s, brought to Covent Garden just afterwards, transferred to LP and perhaps to be acquired as an EMI import.

For the first time, a Eugene Onegin, recorded by a Bolshoi cast, in the HMV catalogue. It had Galina Vishnevskaya as Tatyana, and... her husband Rostropovich as conductor. They have now left the Soviet Union, but the picture is still good. But the new set, whose cast includes several of the same

bearable because, in less hectic contexts, Miss Sontro has so much art and imagination to bring to this music. Agnese Baltsa sings with a like eloquence and a glorious legato, though her core is not quite so effective. In the concert, Luciano Lucchetti sings a forthright, intense *Inferno*. Every Neoterako a flinty, grandly imperious *Confutatio*; the four distinctive solo voices, blended miraculously well in quartet with the brilliant, and the professional Ambrosian Chorus properly responsive, the set will delight most newcomers and many in search of a change (even the finest performances need a rest from them) from a succession of Giulini's.

LP anthologies of operatic choruses should not, for best satisfaction, be heard even on full side at a stretch, not even when the choruses are by Verdi as sung only by the Welsh National Opera, or by the very well chosen, the singing a welcome reminder of the WNC's choristic prowess excellence, the music vigorously and scrupulously directed by Richard Armbrust (listen to the carefully chosen first excerpt), the sound robust and spacious.

William Mann

**William Mann**

**Boccherini: String Quartets Op 6 nos 1 and 3/Op 58 no 2. Quartetto Italiano. Philips 9500**

**Bruchns: The Three Piano Trios opp 8, 87 and 101. Peter Frankl/Gorgy. Pauh/Ralph Kirnbbaum. HMV SLS 5114 (2 discs), £8.25**

**Brahms: Piano Sonata no 3 in G minor/Polonaises nos 3, 4 and 6. Emil Gilels. DG 2531 099, £5.50.**

**Chopin: Six Polonaises. Lazer Berman. DG 2531 094, £5.50.**

□ K 3301 094, £5.75.

Boccherini was not a composer who practised musical birth-control. In 100 years he has bequeathed us only a small fraction of his total output and, hardly surprisingly, some are a little frail. But certainly not the D major quartet, Op 6, no 1, one of the most elegant and beautiful in 1769, that he wrote in Madrid to catch the ear of the Infante Don Luis. The spirited opening Allegro vivace, the tenderly elegiac Andante and the rustically Haydnesque concluding Minuetto struck me as the most immediately engaging music on the Quartetto Italiano disc.

The thoughtful E flat quartet from the same set has its fair share of imaginative strokes, too, not least in matters of texture. The other E flat quartet includes, among longer, later, four-movement work. Here, urbanity is frequently disturbed by sharp dynamic contrasts and *sforzando* and *crescendo* the musical quality of the dark, brooding Larghetto. Yet the 30 years separating it from its early

componers do not bring a maturing comparable with Haydn's. The Quartetto Italiano do not sufficiently contrast its first two movements, with both emerge in a warm tempo. Yet somehow they play with their usual fine blend of finesse and fervour and the recording faithfully captures their mellow tone.

When the Beaux Arts Trio recorded Brahms's piano trios complete, their second disc included the contentious quartet in A, of doubtful authenticity, while a more recent set from the Suk Trio has the Horn Trio as fourth side (see page 10). Peter Frankl, Pauh and Ralph Kirnbbaum are content to spread the three familiar trios over their four sides, and do so with a full warm sonicity that makes the first disc a more convincing one as tone quality is concerned. The playing has a true Brahmsian breadth and glowing fervour expressed in tempo now and then, but is more restrained than that of the more volatile Suk team. Only the variation movement of the second trio in C struck me as a little too idealistic for a Brahmsian motto. Just once or twice I wondered if Frankl was responding too generously to the robust keyboard writing of the first and second quartets in trios. But for the most part blend and balance are further testimonies to the trio's sterling musicianship.

Emil Gilels makes Chopin's 3rd mazurka very much his own. His is especially true to the opening movement, both more leisurely and more flex-

ably expressive than we often hear it, with a little bell-like falling second so magically placed from the left hand's contribution to the second subject that your ear is stolen away. However not even the music inspired by a student, all this might sound mannered. But Gliels does it with sufficient conviction—and beauty—to make his a valid point of view. However not even the can be forgiven for playing the first four bars of an otherwise cumulatively exciting finale nearly twice as fast as the rest. The two middle movements are also played with a little quivers as fluid as water and the Largo like a lovingly remembered dream. The three Polonaises are as sturdy in tone as they are rhythmically lively, and the recording is one of DG's best.

Lazar Berman plays the six Polonaises of Chopin's maturity (including the three chosen by Gliels as fill up) but also the two earlier ones, the great *Polonaise Fantasia*—like a Polini on a disc for the same company which happens to be more translucent in sound as well as more generously filled. The piano playing, the pianism and musical perception better remind us that the Polonaise was originally an aristocrat's dance as against the humble waltz and mazurka peasants. But Berman has a big Russian heart to match his sturdy technique and full tone, and heard without close competition, this disc will give plenty of pleasure.

**Joan Chissell**

It is a reasonable complaint against radio that it does nothing like enough to explore certain areas of daily life which are quite plainly matters for public concern to tens of millions of people. It fell to *Continuum*, Education which, as its staff and listeners are left in little doubt, is the veritable no-man's land of broadcasting, to mount a series about the life and times of the football fan; we are promised—and this is a promise no government is going to have much difficulty in keeping—two million unemployed.

*Analysis* has looked at the prospect of a new series of programmes, but does anybody have in mind a programme or a series of them about the plight of those on whom the ex. will fall or has fallen? The *Observer* has recently concluded *Barriers* with its examination of the British class system ought to be the weekly rule in broadcasting, not the interesting exception.

So far as the national passion for football is concerned, it has in the event been left to the *Dracon* Department: Peter Whalley's *The Last Match* (1960), *Four Cliffs* was the story of a few days in the life of Gowing Rovers, a fictitious Fourth Division Yorkshire club drawn at home against Liverpool, and the *Footballers' Cup* and bringing off the not-to-be-expected feat of holding one

*Afternoon Theatre* continues its necessarily thesaurized career, once more, the best as well as the worst of radio drama, for this is above all the space where most of the best writing has been done. I shall dare. If the review brings the inevitable reckoning (a 5-0 defeat) Gowing's *bad* has its moment of glory. But the play's chief interest lies in what went on more privately: in the claustrophobic, claustrophobic claustrophobia to another; in the experience of the manager, part nurse-maid, part sergeant-major, trying to weld a team out of a mediocre majority who will *never* play for any other and the one or two who will play for any other is to be only the first step in an expanding or even meteoric career. Nice the manager himself—a vice performance incidentally from David Calder who has been in the theatre as long as nothing better comes along, in contrast to the Chairmen whose life and breath it is and who sees his gifted players and their even rarer bird, his gifted manager, as a man with a mixture of hetereness and resignation. Behind the Chairmen, we glimpse the town itself, part of its life also centred round the team: a repeated use of the word, as much as anything, and one in which my affection and an absolutely realistic assessment of Gowing's standing—team and man—play a great part. *What's the point?* The amount of research this project must have demanded with the help of *Bursley Football Club* of the result, sounded to me, was the only one, and, as a genuine, a truly convincing bit of documentary drama, but it carried conviction: also because the author had shaped it imaginatively and infused it with life.

*Afternoon Theatre* continues its necessarily thesaurized career, once more, the best as well as the worst of radio drama, for this is above

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## Travel I

### A game park as big as Wales

For a number of reasons, it was getting close to sunset when we drove from the main Nairobi/Mombasa road into Tsavo West national park. I was keeping a wary eye on an erratic fuel indicator, not being stranded all night wasn't part of my plan. What I intended was for us to make for Kiliguni Lodge and spend our second night on safari there.

The road dipped and twisted, rough surfaced and broken by boulders, making its way beside the Tsavo River through dense bush. The fuel needle jumped and jiggled around the menacing red "E", and my thoughts were not altogether on the way ahead. A sudden exclamation from the seat beside me, the impatient movement ahead, and I braked hard.

Three giraffes were making stately progress diagonally across the road and, as we came to a halt, they paused to look disdainfully at our vehicle. They stopped, turning as they did so to face in our direction. A long pause while three pairs of huge eyes gazed at us along those dowager faces. Three pairs of ridiculous ears semaphored furiously. They turned away and moved with a curious rocking horse elegance, the road free for our passage. They were not in the slightest bit startled by our presence and waited to watch us pass.

They were still there 10 minutes or so later, when we turned back for the gate, my discretion and that fuel gauge having combined to force the decision, as Kiliguni Lodge was a long way ahead. It was as well we did turn back, for the car was running on hope and fumes by the time we reached a petrol pump.

The National Parks of Kenya are that country's main tourist attraction and of those parks by far the largest is Tsavo. Divided into east and west sections by the main road (at the side of which, incidentally, we saw a young lion feeding on the zebra he had killed earlier that same day) Tsavo covers 13,000 square miles and is about the size of Wales, the largest game park in the world, according to the proud manager of the Voi Safari Lodge

in which we spent one night. He has every right to be proud both of the park and the lodge built on a point of high ground which juts into the plain close to Voi gate and the park headquarters, the lodge is extremely comfortable. Catering is its main "pulling trade" — those who use it as a lunch stop or, like us, for one night only — it none less provides a high standard of food and accommodation. I know that many people are now contemplating their first holiday to East Africa (for reasons which I shall mention in a moment) and judging by the letters I receive there is still much uncertainty about a safari and staying at a game park lodge. Banish all thoughts of sleeping under canvas (although you can do so if you have a mind for it) or living roughly, for the lodges are extremely well equipped. Indeed, the Hilton organisation runs two in the Tsavo Hills just outside the Tsavo West boundary. As for the safari — which is nothing more than Swahili for "a journey" — you will find, unless you hire a car as I did, that you are taken in minibuses with a driver/spoter.

My only criticism of organized safaris such as those, is that they are expensive when taken in the context of the inclusive holiday price. To do as we did, staying overnight in the lodge and spending just one night in a lodge, costs around £55 to £60.

There was a time when such a cost was happily borne by people paying five or six hundred pounds for their holiday in Kenya. But as that basic cost has been more or less halved with the introduction of a British Airways charter service from Gatwick to Mombasa, the high price of such excursions is less likely to be accepted. There are some of the best — air conditioned coaches along the tarmac highway with transfers to the minibuses at the park entrance, for example.

Kiliguni Lodge, at which I have stayed before and have happy recollections, was on this trip a bitter disappointment. It was plagued with insects, although one expects to put up with a certain amount of such

"night life" the problem on this occasion was beyond reason. Perhaps we should have stayed both nights at Voi and ventured into Tsavo West from there. I mentioned the British Airways charter flights, and it was on those that the majority of British holidaymakers had travelled, although some had bought more expensive inclusive holidays flying by Air Kenya or British Airways to Nairobi and come down to the coast by road or air from there. The choice is yours, as is the choice of hotel or resort on the Indian Ocean shore.

This trip gave me an opportunity to revisit Malindi, a resort which shows every sign of prospering. A little more than 70 miles north from Mombasa it has some reasonable hotels and a good beach, although at certain times of the year the beach is affected by the sediment washed down the Sabaki river which flows into the sea just a little way up the coast. I sampled a number of Malindi's hotels, and was well pleased with them, as I am sure were the journalists from Britain travelling around the Kenya coast and game parks as guests of British Airways, and which visit coincided with mine. While they were on their travels, however, I was back in Mombasa and staying at the Mombasa Beach hotel, using it as a base for local exploration. It is a first class establishment, certainly a good one, any you will find in the various holiday brochures which promote far away destinations. Having managed to bring down the basic price of an inclusive holiday to around £117, the price of the Caribbean islands, Kenya has much to commend it, and a high standard of hotels is essential to success.

I know that the Kenya Government has embarked on an ambitious five year plan which envisages a K£17.5m investment in the development of hotels and lodges, their modernization and expansion. The Kenya coast has inevitably been a "poor relation" in terms of tourism, because those game parks have been so much in the forefront. Now that country is likely to receive

very many more holidaymakers who are more inclined to seek good beaches, the provision of "seaside and safari" holidays is of prime importance. And the excellent hotels that are already established near Mombasa, like the Mombasa Beach, will serve as a model.

The time I spent in Kenya was time that passed all too quickly, being filled with activity. In addition to my own self-drive safari, I flew from Malindi to Amboseli park where the game is more numerous — or seemed so — and also visited the Hilton lodges in the Tsavo Hills. A day's game fishing and time spent delving into the coast's colourful past combined to create an unforgettable visit and one about which I intend to write on some other occasion.

I believe that a travel agent is a good source of information and help if you are contemplating a holiday visit to Kenya. (That statement will, I know, surprise a good many agents who have lately cast me in the role of super-villain!) Several companies sell inclusive holidays there, some of which combine the game parks and seaside, while others provide a straightforward seaside stay with "safari" as extra side trips. Bearing in mind my comments about the cost of organized safaris, you might consider hiring a car for a few days when you are on the coast. I met several couples who had joined forces to share the cost, as foursomes, when I was there.

As to the cost of the holidays themselves, I fear that such charges will make a nonsense of the brochures' prices in 1980. At this stage the best thing to do is seek an estimate from the travel agent or the tour company.

When you are in Kenya, you can purchase good maps of the game parks and the coast. At the end of last month Cassell published a new edition of the Berlitz guides, one of which is on Kenya and is most comprehensive. At £125 well worth buying to take with you. For general information, contact the Kenya Tourist Office in London at New Burlington Street, W1X 1FF.

John Carter

## Travel II

### Tinkling the tills in Vegas

There is, as I am told, an American saying which goes something like this: if you aim to leave Las Vegas with a small fortune, go there with a large one. Sardonic, perhaps, but after only a few hours in this self-styled "entertainment capital of the world", I took the point.

From the moment you step off your plane and see your first slot machine in the airport reception lounge, you realize you are in a kind of Aladdin's Cave where fortunes await the boldest gambler prepared to stake all on one throw of the dice or turn of a card.

Even as a non-gambler I can still recall the excitement as our plane swooped through the night low over the Nevada desert and seeing town below a patchwork of lights flickering in the dark like grounded stars. Lower and lower we went, until the stars grew into a dazzling neon city that took the breath away.

If America has an energy crisis, Wales is short of coal, I remember thinking as we landed and drove into town along the famous "Strip", with giant hoardings flashing on and off on either side, advertising people like Frank

Sinatra, Dean Martin, and even Britain's own Anthony Newley. The names blossomed into view in Technicolor letters several feet deep. Blackpool's Golden Mile looked like Coronation Street in comparison with this waterland of colour and movement.

Even so, walking through the doorway of my hotel was a revelation. The "foyer" was crowded with people as far as the eye could see; people playing cards, people playing slot machines, a seething mass of shrieking, groaning humanity, punctuated by the throaty coughing of one-armed bandits and clattering of coins. Even as I stepped inside, a woman near me screamed with joy as the machine she was playing unleashed a torrent of silver into her lap.

It was as though I had inadvertently stumbled on to the set of a Ken Russell film, though even he could hardly have dreamed up a more staggering extravaganza. For this was a temple to that American god, the Silver Dollar.

As I wandered half-dazed through the dimly lit corridors, several things struck me: first that the customers using the one-armed bandits seemed to be largely middle-aged women, many of whom sat in front of whole acres of machines operating simultaneously. Their actions were regular and methodical, their expressions fixed (except when they won of course, when they would have thoughts they had discovered Eldorado).

The card players, on the other hand, were mostly men, though the dealers were often young, attractive girls. The men played poker and crap with solemn intensity that was almost frightening as they silently gambled sums of money that would make my bank manager reach for his aspirin bottle.

Some of the gamblers do strike it lucky and winnings can be huge. One of the middle-aged women I was told, only a few days before had placed one silver dollar into a slot machine, pulled the handle and collected a quarter of a million dollars. Such scores are rare: the gamblers feed on them like lumps of sugar so that one can almost sense a fever of expectancy in the air.

It is an atmosphere that lasts around the clock, for Las Vegas is a 24-hour gambling city. The old "million dollar slot machine" slogan "we never closed" was never more true here. It means that darkness never falls on Las Vegas where it is always light. After all, the city is all about fun with a capital F. Gambling and entertainment, in that order, are the twin reasons for its existence.

In a sense Las Vegas is a place where time is not recognized; there is no clock on the wall to distract gamblers from the business at hand. Here the gambler is king, at least until his money runs out. Everything is arranged for his convenience, and it is all under one roof.

There really is no need for the gambler to step outside his hotel, unless it be for a breath of fresh air. His hotel is in

fact a casino with bedrooms. He can eat, sleep (if he wants to) and be entertained there, for the vast profits from gambling enable the casino to employ the world's top stars, who perform nightly at lavish dinner shows.

It is here perhaps that the attraction lies, even for those who do not gamble. One can eat reasonably cheaply and see a favourite showbiz idol on stage for no extra charge. As the casino owners admit quite candidly, the gambling pays for it all.

Should the gambler get bored, he can always take an aerial tour of the Grand Canyon, a truly spectacular sight, and if he is particularly energetic he might even hike through the cañon. Words cannot really convey the impact on the senses of this strange, almost eerie place, where the majesty of ancient rock formations are yet so forbidding in their scale.

Be warned though, the Grand Canyon is no place to be lost and alone, so anyone contemplating a camping trip should take the expert local advice available. The area is largely uninhabited, apart from a small tribe of Indians, whose forebears have lived there for generations.

One hour's flying time away from Las Vegas is the "biggest little city in the world", Reno. Although it cannot quite match the millions of visitors that swarm and big sister's glittering palaces, it is in many ways more interesting. Both in atmosphere and architecture, it evokes a spirit of the old West, for the town grew with the discovery of gold at nearby Virginia City.

At that time Reno was little more than a ferry for the stream of wagons pouring supplies up to the boom town. With the coming of the railroad, Reno (as it became known, after a Civil War general) really began to prosper as a trading centre.

In more recent times it hit the headlines as the place where famous people went for a "quickie" divorce. Today, however, I am assured that weddings outnumber divorces by ten to one.

Be that as it may, Reno, for me, is a more complete holiday centre than Las Vegas. It has history, is an attractive town

enjoying the same benevolent gambling laws, with winter sports including skiing — mountains, lakes and of course the desert. Not surprising then that tourism is its chief industry. Here too the big names of show business perform at the casinos in downtown "Casino Row".

However, if you really want to steep yourself in the lore of the old West, a day or two in Virginia City is a must. If you for the scenic drive up through the hills, Virginia City looks straight out of a Western movie with its long main street, board walks and wooden-framed houses and saloons. It may not be the boom town of years gone by and you won't see any gunfights, but with a little imagination Wild West addicts can indulge their favourite fantasy in a totally authentic setting.

Don John

How to get there: I travelled by Braniff's Big Orange jumbo non-stop from Gatwick to Dallas, Texas, changing for Las Vegas. Details from Braniff or any travel agent.



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## A TOUCH OF REALISM

On the verge of a new industrial revolution, a mood of realism sweeping industry, was Mr Edward Du Cann's comment when invited to say something on the radio at lunchtime about the latest ballots in the South Wales coalfields. It is of the occupation of politicians to magnify good news, especially when so much of the news is bad. They have all the more reason to do so when events appear to confirm a political doctrine or hypothesis which they are trying out. The hypothesis in this case is that a government which comes into office prepared to enforce monetary discipline will be rewarded in due course by the appearance of a matching sense of realism in the two chief components of the economy, managers and workers.

The confirmatory evidence is still a bit thin, and most of it cropped up in the last week or two, but it is worth putting together and trying for size. The Welsh miners, in contradiction of their leaders, look to be acting on the simple proposition that the worst way to prevent pit closures is to close the pits. They were being invited to strike in order to prevail on the government to countermand the British Steel Corporation's plans for closing plant in Wales. The cutback in steel production was expected to lead directly to loss of mining jobs. Twenty of the thirty-six pits have declared, and all have decided not to strike on Monday.

The Welsh TUC still has plans to call the province to a halt next month, and the miners' vote may be partly explained by their

reluctance to go over the top in advance and on their own. But these ballots will make it still less likely that the general council of the TUC will give its necessary support to the Welsh call to battle, and the argument which has been heard from Mr Len Murray and others that they may not be able to hold the lads in check much longer in the face of government's provocation now looks rather hollow.

Other evidence of a similar nature has come from British Leyland and the private sector of the steel industry. At British Leyland, where the jobs of a large part of the workforce are now unmistakably on the line, the Longbridge workers contemptuously refused to disrupt production in order to force back into the company's employment the man who, as their senior shop steward, had organized more disruption of production than most of them had had canteen dinners. In the private steel companies the members of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation have made no secret of their resentment at being ordered to stop work in connection with a dispute to which they are not parties. At Sheerness they have successfully defied the instruction in Sheffield they unsuccessfully defied it, but it is doubtful for how much longer they will consent to be put out of work.

These are examples of trade unionists declining to strike for reasons other than pay, examples of their rejecting the strike weapon as a means of securing their jobs. Such a reluctance to strike can be assumed to be related to the state of the labour

market. Unemployment is high and rising and is perceived to be so. Jobs disappear and nothing comes in their place. Jobs are now less easy to come by and more fragile than at any time within the memory of most of the labour force. It would indeed be surprising if that had no effect on the propensity to strike in defence of employment.

This, however, provides no more than partial confirmation of the political hypothesis the Government is testing out. Monetary discipline is also expected to affect inflationary expectations and govern in a general way the level of pay increases. In that respect the evidence so far does little to confirm the hypothesis. In the year to December earnings rose by 19.6 per cent and it is expected that they will be seen to have risen further in January. That is dangerously out of line with the index of production, with the underlying rate of productivity and with growth of the stock of money.

Here, the message is not getting through. Not even in the public services, where it might be supposed the Government has most interest and influence in the outcome of pay negotiations. Look at the water workers. Offered 13 per cent before Christmas, threatened to strike, offered 17 per cent in January, threatened to strike, and now considering an offer of 21.4 per cent—all in the name of "comparability", and all at the hands of employers who are possessed of the power to tax the public. Mr Du Cann's new industrial revolution still has a bit of ground to cover.

## A legal status for unions: restoring honour and responsibility

From Mr William Shepherd  
Sir, Discussion on trade union law reform has tended to centre on the effect of change on other than the unions themselves, but changes which brought the unions within the law would, I feel, have significant advantages for the unions. Within the space of 10 years the standing of the unions has deteriorated disastrously. They now have little or no honour in the community; their internal organization is chaotic; the leadership finds it virtually impossible to keep itself in line with shop floor sentiment; the growing use of force poses increasing problems; and on the TUC puffs and puffs, giving an exhibition of impotence that only a stranded whale could match.

A good deal of this is due to the unions' lack of responsibility at law. It is this lack of responsibility that the militants have exploited, not unreasonably, to the view that there is no collective legal responsibility, they may do roughly as they like.

What is needed is for the Government and the unions to try and agree upon a legal status that would preserve those collective rights that are necessary for an effective and free trade union movement, but which would enable the unions to revert to effective control of their organizations and to an honoured place in the community.

Yours sincerely,  
WILLIAM SHEPHERD,  
77 George Street, W1.  
February 20.

From Mr F. T. Blackaby  
Sir, The Government is clearly somewhat nonplussed by the determination of the steel workers to stay out for a long time. To the Government, it is clear that workers in loss-making industries should accept substantial cuts in their real wages, and the Government cannot understand why this truth is not universally recognized, by the steel workers as well.

It is not universally recognized, because ideas of equity have for a long time been important in wage bargaining. The idea that fairness should have something to do with relative incomes is not a socialist invention; it is to be found everywhere—Arthur Okun, for example, commenting on the US economy, recently wrote: "most of our economy is dominated by cost-oriented prices and equity-oriented wages". The steel worker knows that his job is hard, skilled, and dangerous; he does not see why he should be pushed further down the scale of wages below workers whose jobs are easier, less skilled, and much safer.

Professor Hayek has argued at length that concepts of equity or social justice should have no place in a wholly market-oriented economy. For better or worse, in our country it is not like that. If the Government wishes to move us towards such an economy, eradication of ideas of equity in the fringe of relative incomes, it would be wise to try to do this in one bound.

Yours faithfully,  
F. T. BLACKABY,  
Deputy Director,  
National Institute of Economic and Social Research,  
2 Dean Trench Street,  
Smith Square, SW1.  
February 20.

From Sir Robert Ughwale  
Sir, As we wait to be foreseen, your leader today (February 20) will be helpful to readers seeking to find the reasonable balance between action and inaction in Mr Prior's proposals for reform, but that apart, issues were raised in Mr Prior's article (February 14) about the "golden rule" and the latter's riposte (letter, February 15) that are a standing invitation to an exercise in common sense by common people, sufficiently able to conduct it within the appropriate contexts of time and circumstance, and with due respect for differences of opinion.

### Source notes for Mr Levin

From Mr Guy Deghy  
Sir, Both Sir Denis Forman and Mr Hans Keller (February 20) miss the point Mr Levin was making, ie, that programme notes are not written for learned musicologists but for the general public. It is therefore quite reasonable to expect that the jargon these gentlemen so ardently defend.

To avoid being thought "mean-spirited", programme notes should be written in plain English that music-lovers of plain intelligence can readily understand, as in the case of musical criticism. Your own excellent critics supply ample evidence that it can be done.

Now Sir Denis goes even further by implying there is something leading to a "deficiency" in finding rather emotional pleasure in music. After 60 years spent in devotion to music, I gladly admit that my great pleasure in it is, as it always has been, purely emotional and that its "analysis" bores me stiff.

If the musicologists (a vile phrase) absolutely must analyse, could they perhaps do it in private? In his private life, a musicologist will call them pseudo or drivellmongers, and as for the usefulness of that exercise, do they really believe that Schoenberg or any other composer of stature is in need of their analytical assistance?

Yours faithfully,  
GUY DEGHY,  
41 Filmer Road, SW6.  
February 21.

From Mrs Sylvia Hayman  
Sir, Bernard Levin is not the first drunk to include cheese and wine in his priorities for coping with impending doom. On September 4, 1666, with the Fire of London two days old and getting dangerously close to his home, Samuel Pepys dug a hole in the garden and buried therein his wine and his "Parmesan cheese".

He dug the wine up again 10 days later. We are not told the fate of the cheese.  
Yours faithfully,  
SYLVIA HAYMAN,  
13 Beaumont Street, W1.  
February 19.

That process dates from the time when Henry II sent judges, not among the people, to begin building the structure of "common law", and it has won unstinted admiration the world over.

Admittedly, statute law does not allow of the flexibility of common law to modify a precedent in order to meet the needs of people in changed times and circumstances, but the mere fact of change can create doubt in a judge's mind, and it is his right and duty to ascertain and abide by the original purpose which motivated the ordinance before him, so far as may be possible without offence to the text.

At worst, his judgment can be restrictive, instead of expansive, as was that recent decision in the House of Lords.

Twenty-one years before Lord Wedderburn was born, I sat curious, and old enough to want to understand the excited comments of my elders about the Act of 1906. It was pronounced "good" that the working man should be enabled fearlessly to demand a better reward for his labour. He was worthy of that. It was largely his unmarred craftsmanship, his pride in his work, his sense of duty, that made British manufactures superior to all others the world over, and brought back much more wealth to the nation than was able to consume.

No one suspected that the new immunity would be abused. No one had any thought that one day the immunities would be multiplied and extended, with the result that a body of power would be built up to challenge, even perhaps intimidate, the legal government and exploit the rest of the nation for the satisfaction of its sectional appetites. Looking back in memory, I can assure Lord Wedderburn that had there been such suspicion, the Act would have been very differently worded while remaining perfectly acceptable to the unions of that time.

Lord Wedderburn could not have seriously, in his letter, meant to put his "golden formula" in the same class as Magna Carta. Mr Levin is right to suggest that it has been tarnished by the rapid changes of so many years. That is the more cause to ask how five law lords could possibly believe that strikers could honestly pretend that they would further their dispute for higher pay by so widening the scope of their action as to weaken, imperil even, the resources national and industrial from which higher pay could be drawn, noting that they scorned any suggestion of higher productivity.

Really, we common people must ask, echoing an old song: Who have we gotten now for lords? Can we regard them now as wise and restraining arbiters in a time of nationwide contention? It is true that they are powerless to correct a glaring misjudgment? If the decision taken in July 1955 is still in force, could not the majority besmirch itself to overrule the five? The House of Lords thus recovers the position in which most of us have hitherto held it, rejecting the cry for abolition.

Mr Levin, again, did well to select those quotations from Sir Andrew Stansfeld, Lord Wedderburn cannot be allowed to dismiss them as irrelevant: they are relevant in the broad context of trade unionism. One does not need the perspective of a long life to realize that, as predicted, it has degraded the social and moral ability of many of its members, and, by undemocratic use of power, has concentrated on the short-term satisfaction of the lower appetites regardless of the future.

Unionism is doomed, as have been other institutions in the past, where power is abused, and we have reason to think: better of these, our fellow-countrymen, brave in war and once proud of their craftsmanship, willing to earn their pay fully, and not yet yet unwieldy of the mind, as Lord Wedderburn's Lordship is, on a reasonable, human level, not swayed by "folk-think", is valuable, and there is no question of bettering the unions or of curbing them by laws redolent of the time, and I am sure that Lord Wedderburn unjustifiably suggests, flatter.

The total cost for each, given in three stages, is £1,700m for Stansted and £1,250m for Stansted—a difference of £450m.

Stages 2 and 3 cost less at Stansted than at Stansted: only stage 1 costs more. This particular stage includes the Ministry of Defence estimate for relocating the defence establishments estimated, I believe, at between £240m and £300m. Taking the cost of land acquisition for the urbanization of a fully developed Stansted—which is estimated at some £340m—gives Stansted no cash advantage at all.

On environmental aspects there

### Home co-ownership

From Mr Nigel Thompson  
Sir, I read Mr G. R. Davies' letter in *The Times* today (February 19) with much interest.

In 1970 I took out a mortgage with a society which insisted that ownership be in my name. Seven years later I joined the legion of divorcees. My former wife was entitled to a third of the value of the house less the mortgage. With much effort and help from the bank the necessary sum was paid, and the house retained.

Had a co-ownership arrangement been in force I would have been deprived of family and home in one blow. As it is I consider myself lucky, and not unlike Mr Jeremy Fisher who on catching a stickleback remarked what a mercy it was not a pike. I fear the new Bill may introduce much more pike.

Yours sincerely,  
NIGEL THOMPSON,  
40 Harley Street, W1.  
February 19.

February 19), aware that their natural sensitivity makes unions ready to resort to corrective measures if they are aggressively proposed.

The Longbridge result, just announced, might have been different if Mr Prior had given the impression of wanting to punish or penalise the unions. The majority of the members, as distinct from their leaders, may be willing enough to agree that a balance must be struck between the unions and the rest of the nation. Happily we may, with wise measures, restore the unity of the whole nation.

Yours faithfully,  
R. W. URSQUART,  
6 Blacket Place,  
Edinburgh.  
February 20.

From Mr Esmond Bulmer, MP for Kidderminster (Conservative)  
Sir, You protest too much.

The Conservative Party in opposition thought very carefully about the reform of the law governing trade unions. It did so against the background of two dominant considerations: that the cost of failure was incalculable and that the test of success was whether the changes provided a permanent foundation to a new balance between the power of the employer and the trade union.

Under Lord Wedderburn and Mr Foot the balance was so tilted that co-ownership bargaining became a formula for national impoverishment.

The Employment Bill fulfils our manifesto commitments and the new clauses seek to set right the recent Labour admissions. If they prove not to go far enough, the Government will not doubt take further action. You and others argue that this should be done now, but apart from the need to proceed with caution through what is a legal minefield, I think that it is a waste of time to argue that there is a limit to the extent to which it is prepared to protect trade union members from the consequences of their own actions.

Management has also been strengthened by the removal of many controls which previously fettered it. The economic climate is exercising a new discipline. If the framework of industrial relations law still favours the trade unions, that must be set against the improved bargaining power of management, and the need to provide every incentive for better participation in industry. In the difficult times ahead, the growing awareness of a common interest must be our best hope.

The greatest mistake the Government could make would be to take any action in the field of industrial relations law which would lose the support of those many trade unionists who elected us and who wish as fervently as we do to see this common interest develop. I am convinced that it is more wise to proceed with the carefully thought out programme now before Parliament which has wide public support than to move in the direction to which you pointed today.

Yours faithfully,  
ESMOND BULMER,  
House of Commons.  
February 20.

### From Mr Adrian H. Cowell

Sir, One of the most effective means of controlling pickets and effecting an end to intimidation would be to charge organizations as mount such demonstrations the full market price for the necessary presence of the police, at a rate of one whole police officer's salary for every three pickets present per day or per part of a day.

Yours faithfully,  
A. H. COWELL,  
7 Holt Copple,  
Aughton Green,  
Near Ormskirk,  
Lancashire.  
February 20.

It is no case to be argued between Stansted and Stansted. We all know that the Roskill Commission excluded Stansted from its short list on the ground that too many people lived near it and would suffer excessively from a major increase in its use. This argument still holds great force.

Add to that the noise and numbers affected, and I suggest that the term "environmental disaster" is no exaggeration. I think that if Stansted is chosen, it will have to be developed and will become the Secretary of State has said he does not want, namely, a major new international airport. The option to develop Stansted further, possibly to 50 million passengers a year, would mean nothing less.

Let us hope that the detailed inquiry promised will bring these matters to light.

Yours faithfully,  
BURNON OF COVENTRY,  
House of Lords.  
February 21.

### Rugby violence

From Mr Henri van Laun  
Sir, It used to be said of the two codes of football that one was "a game for gentlemen" played by hooligans, the other a game for hooligans played by gentlemen.

After last Saturday's exhibition at Twickenham would it not be true to say of rugby that it has now become a game for hooligans played by hooligans?

Yours faithfully,  
HENRI VAN LAUN,  
14 St Peter's Street,  
Sandwich,  
Kent.  
February 20.

### A word for the Vikings

From Mrs R. M. Maxtone Graham  
Sir, Perhaps the Vikings did not destroy the York library books but just took them home to read.

Yours faithfully,  
CLAUDIA MAXTONE GRAHAM,  
6 Moor Sole,  
Sandwich,  
Kent.  
February 20.

## Tory attitudes on social priorities

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halsbury and Stourbridge (Conservative)

Sir, Lord Alport's letter (February 19) amazes me. I hope I am neither "a hard faced man" who did well out of the last war, or a "wet", but a Tory Democrat. I represent an industrial seat which I won in 1970 after it had been Labour for 25 years. I am certainly far too much of a romantic or historic Tory to be a wholly "laissez-faire" or a market forces man, yet the drift to the Left has been so pronounced since 1945 that the country must turn Right if it is to regain any sort of freedom or solvency at all. Nor do I admire the 1951 to 1964 Conservative administration, much as I like Mr Harold Macmillan personally. That was a time when the government always gave in and paid out money to avoid trouble (hence the Thorneycroft, Powell, Birch resignations, etc.). This was also unfortunately a period of grave moral deterioration in our national life.

Surely the time has come, which Lord Alport does not seem to realize, that we can no longer pay our way out of trouble to support some supposed consensus or "middle way". We have now reached the point where state subsidies will have to go and self-help will have to come in. Our factories are simply not producing enough to support Lord Alport's ideas. I find this realism more pronounced on the shop floor of the very many works in my constituency.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN STOKES,  
House of Commons.  
February 21.

From the President of the Cambridge Union

Sir, In his article (February 15), David Wood said Sir Ian Gilmour, MP, had delivered his lecture on Conservation at Oxford.

He did not. I am pleased to say he delivered it at the Cambridge Union.

I remain your obedient servant,  
MARK BISHOP, President,  
The Union Society,  
Cambridge.

### Welfare of the world

From Mr Victor Gordon  
Sir, Happily the world's governments will pay not the slightest attention to the Brandt Commission's report.

To accept the argument that developed countries threaten the planet with pollution and resource exhaustion, but at the same time demand intensified efforts to develop the underdeveloped countries too is contradictory, stupid, and very dangerous.

The developed countries do not know how to run their own economies/societies, let alone anyone else's.

We should leave the underdeveloped countries to their own devices. If they decide to do further OPECs with their raw materials, that is up to them. They do not need our example, our interference, our good intentions. The message and moral of the whole independence movement is Go Away! "Aid"—a neo-colonial euphemism for dependence—corrupts the nation-donor and humiliates the receiver.

I hope you will print these unfashionable views. Sir, there are no poor countries, only over-populated ones (ours included).  
Yours faithfully,  
VICTOR GORDON,  
The Tower House,  
Ufford,  
Woodbridge,  
Suffolk.

### Without a word

From Mr Derek Walters  
Sir, It was with some dismay that I cast my eye over the recent list of Children's Bestsellers compiled by the National Book League (*The Bookeller*, February 16).

Among the first four titles, one of a list of 10, two were picture books with no text, while another was a novelty item which has received extensive and unusual publicity. Based on these criteria, one might, with possibly greater justification, extend one's concept of a bestseller to include any book-like item: diaries, shorthand note pads, or even books of raffle tickets, perhaps.

The National Book League ("Will there still be books in 1984?") should be stammering at the implications of a list which actively encourages publishers to abrogate whatever responsibilities they may have held towards the reading public of the future.  
Yours faithfully,  
DEREK WALTERS,  
70 Milton Park,  
Highgate, N6.

### Unfrosted

From the Reverend B. J. W. Pedley  
Sir, I should have hoped that *The Times* knew better than to perpetuate the commonly held misbelief that Rasputin was a monk (Moscow Diary, February 20). He was neither a monk—he had a wife and family—nor a priest.

*Magna est Veritas*, no doubt, but will it ever prevail against the weight of your authority? Yours respectfully,  
BASIL J. W. PEDLEY,  
Ty Newydd,  
Uplowman Cross,  
Tiverton,  
Devon.

### Guns and butter

From Professor G. P. G. Butler  
Sir, I note that, according to Mr James Scamphorpe (*The Times*, February 21), the butter which the EEC now proposes to sell to the Soviet Union "will be subsidised at a considerably lower rate than before the invasion of Afghanistan". What would the Russians have to do before the subsidy could be removed altogether? Bomb Brussels? Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY BUTLER,  
Newbury,  
Beaconsfield,  
Bucks.

## OMINOUS BEGINNING TO MRS GANDHI'S RULE

If India had a united opposition to Mrs Gandhi's Congress (I) government its leader would by now be drawing attention to the incidents which tell against Mrs Gandhi's promise that her return to office would not mean a return to the habits of the emergency. Unfortunately none of the opposition parties holds enough seats to warrant the official appointment of a leader; worse, there are many respects in which the Janata Party's record while in office hardly gives them any status as critics of the incoming government. Thus the latest annual report of the commissioner for scheduled castes reveals how Mr Morarji Desai's promise that he would save the Harijans from their undeserved suffering was in no way fulfilled during his term of office. By contrast, after a recent incident, Mrs Gandhi promptly visited the village where the violence had been reported and castigated the state police for their failings. Another report by a judge who had been asked to investigate charges that Mr Desai's son and Mr Charan Singh's wife had corruptly benefited from the positions held by their relatives was unable to exonerate either.

Fortunately there are other and more independent voices that are being raised, warning against Mrs Gandhi's propensity to garner political power by sometimes unscrupulous means. *The Times of India* was the strong supporter during the electoral campaign in December. But her decision to dissolve the state legislature and call for fresh elections has roused that newspaper to sharp comment. Mrs Gandhi foresees that in the election for the upper house due next month she could much reduce or overtake the majority against her on the assumption that fresh state elections would give her the same majority that she earned in the country last month. *The Times of India*, and many other critics alerted by her

action, dismisses her excuse that the Janata government set a precedent by pointing out that the objections she herself raised to their action are just as valid now.

In any case, Mrs Gandhi's tendency to ignore constitutional practice was shown in 1959 when she bundled out of power the communist government elected in Kerala in 1957. She was then an emissary of the central government and a junior minister. In 1971, however, when the communists won 113 seats in West Bengal to the 105 of Congress the new state government soon found itself ousted and replaced by administration from the centre. There followed a campaign to wipe out communist power that resorted to intimidation, violence and murder carried out by a Congress-organized mafia with the aid of the para-military central reserve police. When the subsequent election then gave Congress 216 seats and the communists only fourteen, communist charges of rigging and terror could hardly be dismissed. So it is not surprising that Mrs Gandhi has not moved against the communist governments now in office in West Bengal and Kerala where her support during the election did not match theirs.

The objection to the attempted overthrow of these state governments is that the precedent set by Janata and now Mrs Gandhi will become established. The result will not only be to limit the chances of the regional parties in some states but to prevent the growth in India of any future opposition party to Mrs Gandhi's Congress (I), since only by establishing a base in one or more states could any such party acquire a national reputation and thereby the possibility of power at the centre.

Apart from the moves against the Janata-held states other evidence is accumulating to cause anxiety. Many fresh appointments have raised eye-

brows. The shoulders are perhaps shrugging at the thought that they had better be accepted as part of the rough usage to which the incoming and outgoing governments in the seventies have accustomed Indian political opinion. But some appointments are too blatantly unjust to be overlooked either by reason of those evicted from office or from the ominous character of those appointed. These appointments are evidently the work of Mr Sanjay Gandhi, though he holds no ministerial office. Other complaints against his influence relate to the strong-arm gangs that he used during the emergency and which are now reappearing. It is not likely that the excuse made for him or the family loyalty which has made Mrs Gandhi defend him will any longer deflect the criticism.

In an interview with our special correspondent Mrs Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, the late Mr Nehru's sister, has said that all her suspicions of Mrs Gandhi are being confirmed. She has for long been a consistent critic of her niece but that is not a reason to disregard her warnings when so many other independent voices are adding their doubts. Despite Mrs Gandhi's comfortable majority against a weak and divided opposition in last month's election, her party's vote was only 41 per cent against the 35 per cent she won in 1977 when the Janata Party swept her from power. Following the emergency, those two elections have alerted a large body of Indian opinion against the threat to liberty and constitutional government to which Mrs Gandhi has already shown herself prone when her own power is at stake. Despite the assurances she has given that the emergency is a thing of the past the evidence of the past six weeks suggests that her behaviour still needs to be closely monitored.

### Constant factor

From the Reverend Dr E. W. T. Dicken

Sir, In supposing that second marriages (ie of divorcees) are more stable than first marriages, Mr Beishon (February 16) has been misled by a widespread but regrettable fallacy. If he will consult the latest publication on this matter of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (*Changing Patterns of Family Formation and Policy*, HMSO, 1979, p.79) he will see that "the previously divorced are at higher risk than those marrying for the first time" (my italics).

Careful study of the statistics reveals that, in fact, the second marriage of a divorcee is almost twice as likely to end in dissolution as the marriage of a bachelor or spinster. Since the annual divorce rate is now rapidly approaching a level nearly half that of the annual marriage rate, the chances of second marriages remaining undissolved in years to come are slender indeed.

One may add a rider to this. Since divorce is not seldom a quite shattering experience for the parties concerned, just how compassionate is the law which enables them to contract a second marriage under these circumstances?

Yours faithfully,  
E. W. TRUEMAN DICKEN,  
The Warden's House,  
Lenton Hall,  
University of Nottingham.  
February 16.

### Guy Liddell

From Mr Andrew Boyle  
Sir, I will not bandy words with Anthony Blunt (February 18), hardly the most reliable witness

in all the circumstances, over the intrinsic credibility, or otherwise, of the late Gervase Rees on his deathbed. May I simply say that Rees had nothing to gain by telling me a pack of lies: his aim was to tell the truth, and to do so more fully and openly than was legally possible when he published his book, *A Chapter of Accidents*, in 1972.

I find it a little odd of Anthony Blunt to lay undue stress on the "quite different story" related by Rees in that book. True, on page 209, the author did write that his interview with M15 took place "next day", on May 28, 1951, the day following Blunt's protest and unsuccessful attempt to dissuade him from going to the security authorities.

This, in my judgment, was inconsistent with Rees's repeated claim that Guy Liddell kept him waiting for an unconscionably long time before arranging a first interview. It was when I faxed Rees with the inconsistency that he explained why he hoped, if spared, to bring out a new and unexpurgated edition of the book. The articles I wrote subsequently in *The Observer* were based on material which could not be used, for legal reasons, seven years earlier.

Even so, Anthony Blunt would have found the answer to the discrepancy had he troubled to turn the page and read on (page 211) in that first, bowdlerized edition of *A Chapter of Accidents*. Rees's interview with M15 could not have occurred until June 7, 1951, at the earliest; for, on emerging from M15 headquarters, Rees saw the headlines in the evening papers announcing that two British diplomats had vanished into this air. Perhaps the memory of Anthony

Blunt, brilliant scholar as he undoubtedly is, has perversely betrayed him.  
Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW BOYLE,  
16 Deodar Road,  
Putney, SW15.

### Dealing with drinkers

From Dr B. D. Hore

Sir, The letter from Mr M. Meacher, MP (February 5) is timely. We have now dealt with several hundred intoxicated individuals who have been brought to us by the police and within a hospital setting we have managed quite satisfactorily to deal with them without undue problems of violence or severe illness in the vast majority of individuals.

As Mr Meacher points out we are one of the pilot centres which was set up by the DESS on an experimental basis only. The experiment will terminate this year and the future of our centre is in jeopardy.

Our work here has convinced us of the value of such a centre both in providing detoxification and in offering an opportunity for individuals with drinking problems to receive further help. The future continuation of our centre which is shortly to be considered by Manchester Area Health Authority (Teaching) is strongly supported by those voluntary and statutory services helping alcoholics in the Greater Manchester area.

Yours sincerely,  
B. D. HORE,  
Consultant Psychiatrist and Director of Regional Alcohol Treatment Unit,  
Whitington Hospital,  
West Didsbury,  
Manchester.





## SPORT

## Racing

## Monksfield must put his best hoof forward

From an Irish Racing Correspondent

Monksfield, the dual champion hurdler, and two previous winners of the Sweeps Hurdle, Cheltenham and Master Monday, meet in this afternoon's Early Frogs Hurdle worth £12,500 to the winner at Leopardstown, where every race sees Irish Cheltenham prospects in action.

Monksfield has not raced since trailing in a remote last of eight in a minor hurdle at Navan over Christmas. His trouble was diagnosed as a blood disorder and treatment seems to have proved successful. The eight-year-old is supposed to be working well at home, but with just two and a half weeks to go before Cheltenham it will take a very forward showing from Monksfield here if he is to retain his position at the head of the ante-post market on the Champion Hurdle.

Twinnburn, the best of our four-year-old hurdlers last year, had Cheltenham six lengths behind him when they were second and third to Irig in the Sweeps Hurdle at Warrington on Thursday. Both trainers, Tony Redmond and Mick O'Toole, have been on the Champion Hurdle and O'Toole has interrupted Cheltenham's successful career for a tilt at the big hurdle.

Twinnburn holds the edge at this stage and will start favourite to finish sixth in this welshling year and although he has something to find on both Monksfield and Twinnburn judged on his best form he cannot be ignored. Master Monday won this race three years ago and is another who has been chasing recently. On Barry rides him and last time out Master Monday ran Bright Highway very close in a top Gowran Park novice steeplechase.

Defeat for Bright Highway in the Sun Alliance Novices Steeplechase at Cheltenham is unlikely as he has interrupted Cheltenham's successful career for a tilt at the big hurdle. Cheltenham, who recently underwent a successful holiday operation, takes on another potential Cheltenham winner, Master Monday, in a bound Corrib Challenge Cup Steeplechase. Corrib Challenge will be better suited to this two and a quarter mile ride than the rambling-olden Bright Highway, but it was over his trip that Bright Highway beat Master Monday at Gowran and his jumping might be just that little bit cleaner than Corrib Challenge.

John O'Neill flies over to ride Jack of Truants in the Harold Clarke Leopardstown Steeplechase. The second favourite for the Cheltenham Gold Cup, Jack of Truants shoulders 12st 2lb and the top weight faces a test far more severe than either Border Incident or Diamond Edge, who are in the week. Since finishing second to Silver Buck in the King George V Steeplechase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day Jack of Truants has not raced in public, but his frequent racecourse schools still indicate a pronounced tendency to jump towards the left. It is a course winner at Leopardstown and if he can beat Ballydoon and the Gold Cup outsider Secret Progress, at present, at Cheltenham his Cheltenham chance will be bright indeed.

Carriage Way and Norbury, who could finish on a severe and eighth behind Gros Douon on Tuesday, turn out again in the £2,735 Prix General Didier for amateur riders at Cheltenham tomorrow. The British took this race last year with Brennan's Glen and, although somewhat over-challenged, were beaten recently over this same mile, they are not without hope of gaining a repeat success.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Kennedy (sore shins), Tamin, Volant.

## Stratford-on-Avon

Television (ITV): 1.30, 2.30 races

## 1.30 NEWCOMERS CHASE (5-y-o novices: £906: 2m)

1 001210 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
2 001211 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
3 001212 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
4 001213 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
5 001214 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
6 001215 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
7 001216 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
8 001217 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
9 001218 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
10 001219 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
11 001220 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
12 001221 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
13 001222 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
14 001223 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
15 001224 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
16 001225 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
17 001226 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
18 001227 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
19 001228 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
20 001229 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
21 001230 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
22 001231 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
23 001232 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
24 001233 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
25 001234 Prince Heston (D) N. J. Pinner, 11-10 C. Brown  
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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

<b>Stock markets</b>	
FT Ind 454.2 down 3.4	FT Gilt 65.37 down 0.47
<b>Sterling</b>	
\$2.2760 down 1.10 cents	Index 72.8 unchanged
<b>Dollar</b>	
Index 86.1 up 0.5	
<b>Gold</b>	
\$629.5 down \$28.5	
<b>Money</b>	
3 month sterling 1711-1718	
3 month Euro \$161-17	
6 month Euro \$161-17	

### IN BRIEF

## Fine Fare to take over 52 Pricerite stores

BAT Industry's International Stores supermarket division has ended the south of England part of its three-year-old experiment with limited line discount shops operating under the name Pricerite.

International is selling 52 Pricerite branches in the south and the south of England to Associated British Food's Fine Fare for £3.6m. Pricerite will continue to run its 90 stores in the north of England where the concept of limited line discount—involving a reduced choice for shoppers but highly competitive prices—has proved more successful. It had become obvious to International that the Pricerite stores in the south could improve results only with a reduced choice for shoppers but highly competitive prices. It was not willing to pay.

### Viking Oil takeover

Viking Oil, the Scottish oil exploration group with finds in the South Brae field and possible finds in its other block, has agreed to a takeover bid from Deminor, the West German oil company. The bid is worth £7.2m in cash and a further sum in equity units dependent on production.

### Locatel suspension

Locatel, the French television rental company, has been suspended from the Paris bourse yesterday. It is believed that Thomson-Brandt and Cie Generale d'Electricite, being acquired by the French government to counter Thoma's offer, made last June, of Fr450 a share.

### Meccano offer

A Canadian company could make a bid to buy the Airfix Industries' Meccano and Dinky toy factory in Liverpool. Financial News, page 19

### Car export inquiry

The Japanese motor manufacturers association is to address the United States house ways and means committee on trade at a public hearing on January car exports to the United States to be held on March 7.

### Findus closure

Findus, the frozen food processor, is to close its fish factory at Hull, with the loss of 250 jobs, because of the decline of Hull as a fish port. Earlier this week the port's trawler owners' association said it was going into voluntary liquidation because it could no longer afford to unload the ships.

### BSR redundancies

BSR is to make 1,200 workers redundant at its four factories in the West Midlands because of a drop in orders, particularly from the American market which normally takes 70 per cent of the company's production of recorders.

### Metalworkers say no

Metalworkers in Hesse, West Germany have rejected a 6.8 per cent pay rise accepted by unions in other parts of the country last week.

## Inflation and prime bank lending rates soar to record levels in America

From Frank Vogl  
Washington, Feb 22

The United States inflation rate and prime commercial bank lending rates have now soared to record levels. The Government announced that consumer prices are rising at an annual rate of 15.6 per cent and banks today raised their prime rates to as high as 16 1/2 per cent.

Mr Richard Russell, the White House's wage and price council director, said today's new consumer price data was "terrible news for American consumers and American workers" and that there was no short-term prospect of a deceleration in the inflation tempo. He stressed that President Carter remained firmly opposed to wage and price controls.

The rise in prime rates is the result of the Federal Reserve's tougher money policies, combined with mounting inflation pressures and large short-term commercial and industrial loan demand.

Just one week ago the national prime rate level was 15 1/2 per cent. Early today a number of prominent New York banks, including Citibank and Manufacturers Hanover, made their second 3 percentage point increase in a single week, moving their rate from 15 1/2 to 16 1/2 per cent to a new record.

## New £800m tap stock surprises markets

By John Whitmore

The Bank of England surprised the financial markets yesterday by announcing the issue of new £800m gilt-edged stock next week. The new stock, Treasury 14 per cent 1996, will be offered for sale next Wednesday on the basis of a 14.74 per cent gross redemption yield at the minimum tender price of £95 1/2 per cent.

A number of analysts have been arguing that the government has already achieved substantial funding in the present financial year and this new issue would be a further step towards the moment, the more so because public sector finances have recently been running in substantial surplus.

Many market operators have been taking the view that the authorities would not risk aggravating the very tight situation in money markets by trying to sell still more stock. The Bank has already had to provide an exceptional amount of assistance to the banking system to prevent short term interest rates going even higher.

There was also surprise that a new stock should be announced at the end of a week in which investors' sense of caution was bound to be heightened by the sharp rises in interest rates taking place overseas, notably in the United States.

In spite of all this, the authorities are clearly of the view that further funding needs to be achieved between now and April, and that it is better to establish a stock in the market now even if it does not sell out immediately.

## New brokers, auditors and bank for reshuffled Kitchen Queen

By Our Financial Staff

Kitchen Queen Group, which plunged sharply into deficit just 15 months after its stock market flotation, has reshuffled its board and appointed new stockbrokers, auditors and a merchant bank. The moves come just one month after Mr Neville Johnson stepped down as chairman and sold off 8.5 million shares for £900,000. He was succeeded as chairman by Mr Leonard Morris and Mr James Bentham who came from Moben Home Improvement, acquired by Kitchen Queen in November.

Soon after Morgan Guaranty Trust and Bankers Trust in New York, followed by Bank of America and Crocker National Bank in San Francisco, leapfrogged their rivals and announced increases to 16 1/2 per cent from 15 1/2 per cent. Mr Clifford Fry, vice president and senior financial economist at Crocker said: "I don't think 16 1/2 per cent is the top".

Fears that inflation is gathering momentum were confirmed when Bureau of Labour statistics showed that consumer prices in January rose at a seasonally adjusted rate of 1.4 per cent, after a 1.2 per cent rise in December. The January increase is the largest in a single month since August 1979, and it took the index to 13.9 per cent above the level registered a year ago (23.3, 1967 equals 100).

The rise in prime rates is the result of the Federal Reserve's tougher money policies, combined with mounting inflation pressures and large short-term commercial and industrial loan demand.

Just one week ago the national prime rate level was 15 1/2 per cent. Early today a number of prominent New York banks, including Citibank and Manufacturers Hanover, made their second 3 percentage point increase in a single week, moving their rate from 15 1/2 to 16 1/2 per cent to a new record.

seen in the health care, entertainment and clothing sectors. The only bright spot was food prices, which rose by just 0.1 per cent, after a 1.4 per cent gain in December.

Mr Fry believed there could be worse inflation ahead and he suggested this was one reason the prime rate was increased so forcefully today. He said the severe rains in California in the last week had destroyed the fresh vegetable crops and this was bound to lead to higher food prices nationally.

He said the latest price rises from members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries still to be passed through fully to the consumer price index and White House officials said that this was one reason for their short-term pessimism. Finally, mortgage rates were going to rise dramatically and this too would place upward pressure on the consumer price index.

As inflation worsens, it becomes more of a critical political issue and there is talk now of any policies being initiated by the White House. Increasing numbers of Congressmen appear to be leaning towards wage and price controls, even though Mr Thomas O'Neill, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, has said that "The House will never act on this unless there is a direct message from the President".

## Wall Street reflects uncertainty

From Our US Economics Correspondent  
Washington, Feb 22

Share prices fell and then rose then became mixed in the first few hours of trading on the New York Stock Exchange today. The churning and lack of any clear trend has become all too familiar on Wall Street where there is now exceptional uncertainty about economic trends and policies.

Corporations, according to bankers, are nervous and rushing to secure short-term funds; volume in the commercial paper market is at record levels; commercial and industrial loans are being made in New York and California has recently shot ahead.

As interest rates drive higher, so prices in the bond markets become increasingly depressed and the prospect of tightening credit conditions is being hard at the nerves of investors in shares, even though many analysts assert that many shares are greatly underpriced relative to asset strength.

Yesterday sterling finished well above its lowest level of the day of \$2.2710, but was still 110 points down at \$2.2760. Against continental currencies the pound was generally firmer and its trade-weighted index was unchanged.

At yesterday's Treasury Bill tender, aggressive bidding by several houses saw the average rate at which bills were allotted drop to 16.0712 per cent from 16.143 per cent the previous Friday. Money market rates however tended to firm up after news of the United States prime rate increases.

Halliday, Simpson, the Manchester stockbrokers who brought the company to market, are to be replaced by the London firm of Panmure, Gordon, Royle, Peeling, Green, the auditors are to continue jointly with Price Waterhouse until the completion of the interim figures for the six months to February 29 when Price Waterhouse become sole auditors. The company is also to appoint N. M. Rothschild & Son its first merchant bank.

Mr Eric Powell, Mr Harvey Wilson and Mr Nicola De Blasio have resigned from the main board. Mr Powell had been the company while Mr Wilson and Mr De Blasio are to continue as executive directors of subsidiaries. Mr Ray Greenhalgh, chief executive of the retail division, has been appointed to the main board. More information about the financial position of the company is to be given with the interim figures in May. Mr Morris and Mr Bentham have agreed to defer repayment of the firm's unsecured loan notes due in April until at least December.

## Hambros Bank hoping to buy Fairey Holdings from the NEB for £19.5m

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke  
Financial Editor

Fairey Holdings, a wholly-owned National Enterprise Board investment, yesterday became the subject of an enterprise £19.5m cash bid from Hambros Bank.

If successful the idea is that Hambros, a leading merchant bank, and two other intermediaries will then place the bulk of Fairey's capital with about 10 investment institutions. They in turn would expect to float Fairey as a public company once again in about two years' time.

The NEB's reaction seemed cool. It is no longer under pressure to meet the original government target of achieving asset sales worth £100m by the end of March and it has to weigh up the benefits of any sale both to the company itself and to the taxpayer.

The NEB attitude seemed to be that Hambros was proposing something which the NEB could do just as well itself, and that the taxpayer's interest might not be well served by Hambros taking a "turn" on the deal.

Nevertheless, the Hambros idea will be carefully considered along with other ideas for the future of Fairey, an engineering conglomerate which was bought for around £20m by NEB just over two years ago after an open market contest with Trafalgar House.

The Hambros argument is

that its proposal ensures that Fairey remains a single entity. We believe very strongly that Fairey should remain an independent company and go back to the private sector. We have taken an initiative to achieve this, a spokesman for the bank said.

Hambros already has a good knowledge of Fairey in that it opened negotiations about a year ago with the idea of making an immediate flotation. Moreover, Mr Angus Murray, chairman of Fairey and the man who has headed its revival under NEB ownership, is a longstanding associate of Hambros and still a member of the bank's industrial advisory unit, a group of consultants able to offer a "company doctor" service on behalf of the bank.

Mr Murray stressed yesterday that the offer from Hambros had not been at his initiative, but that the idea had come entirely from within Hambros. If the Hambros offer is successful it is believed that Mr Murray and the rest of Fairey's management would remain with the company, and that management policies would be unchanged.

Hambros would intend to retain about 10 per cent of the capital of Fairey, its own funds, though whether this stake would include holdings by the other two participants in a placing with the institutions, Hoare Govett, a firm of stock

brokers, and Thompson Clive, the West End financiers, is unclear at this stage.

In this case the NEB's advisers are Morgan Grenfell. While the Hambros initiative has created pressure to find an early answer, the outcome for Fairey may not be known until April. Fairey's profits in 1978 were £5.2m on sales of £43.3m.

Last year's accounts are still in the hands of the auditors—one reason why the NEB is not in a position to give Hambros a quick answer—though it seems that Fairey will be lucky to match the previous year's profit because of the engineering strike.

The NEB will consider breaking up Fairey. Apart from Hambros, no-one has yet made an offer for the whole company (though the Hambros move may produce similar bids) but great interest has been shown in buying parts of the company. Trafalgar House would like to buy Fairey's bridge-building business; Dowty has apparently expressed interest in its aerospace hydraulics interests and NEI (formerly Northern Engineering Industries) could be interested in Fairey's nuclear engineering operations.

So far under this Government the NEB has raised £38m by selling its stake in ICL (International Computers). Other interesting sales are Fairey, the stakes in Ferranti, Brown Boveri. But Sir Arthur Knight, the NEB's new chair-



Mr Angus Murray: head of Fairey revival under NEB ownership.

man, has successfully convinced the Government that the target of selling assets of £100m by March is unrealistic and placed the NEB in the untenable market position of being a forced seller.

## Lloyds Bank pre-tax profits jump 49 per cent

By Ronald Pullen  
Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank is again having to face criticism that they are making excessive profits because of the way government policy has pushed up interest rates, as they produce the expected huge improvement in 1979 results over the next two weeks.

Sir Jeremy Mosca, chairman of Lloyds Bank, yesterday announced a 49 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £276.6m and said that "it was vital for banks to be earning good profits to have sound capital base".

The results were at least £10-£15m higher than City estimates, and with the 34 per cent rise in the dividend to 20.4p a share, Lloyds shares rose 12p to 310p. Other bank shares rose in sympathy with Barclays 5p higher at 443p, NatWest, which is due to report next Tuesday, 7p to 363p and Midland 7p to 363p.

Overall profits from international banking, one of the driving forces of the last few years, were static because of low margins and the strength of sterling. Lloyds Bank international has already reported a drop in pre-tax profits of a tenth to £40m.

Virtually all the £91m rise in profits came from the domestic banking operations with base rates averaging 13.7 per cent against 9.1 per cent, although the margin between base and deposit rates narrowed from 3.3 to 2.5 per cent and costs rose 18 per cent. Total advances rose by just over a quarter to £12,548m.

Sir Jeremy said that corporate borrowers were now making greater use of their overdraft facilities but the pace of personal lending had slowed. The bank said that it was in an uncomfortable position over the corset restrictions and that despite the Bank of England's move to reduce the pressure on interest rates, base rates could still rise because of present high money market rates.

Lloyds' capital ratios were adequate and it did not expect any changes in its lenders. The bank's holding nor did it intend to strengthen its instalment credit side through any move on its Lloyds & Scottish holding.

## State industries may be removed from PSBR

By Nicholas Hirst

The Government is considering removing nationalized industries from the calculation of the public sector borrowing requirement, one of the key measures for assessing the state of the economy.

A team of government ministers including Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Keith Joseph, industry secretary and Mr David Howell, energy secretary, met a group of nationalized industries' chairmen, led by Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of the Electricity Council, this week.

The discussions were described as extremely constructive and both sides agreed to examine jointly whether the industries should be removed and whether it remained sensible to subject the state industries to stringent cash limits.

There is sympathy within some government circles for the idea that the productive nationalized industries' borrowing is different from that borrowing which is necessary for social benefits such as the health service. But they are worried that the removal of about £2,000m from the PSBR as currently calculated would look like a cosmetic trick to make the figures look better.

The nationalized industries' chairmen, however, point to investment opportunities which are being missed because they are afflicted with cash limits imposed to keep their borrowing down which have nothing to do with the kind of project appraisal which would be used in the private sector.

There would be clear advantages to the Government and the state-run concerns in removing their borrowings from the PSBR. Borrowing by the state industries would mean that the public industry sector could tailor its investment programme to its forecasts of commercial success, without the Government appearing to be increasingly profligate in its own spending.

It is also recognized that cash limits for the large public sector industries such as electricity, coal and the Post Office, are exceedingly difficult to forecast and to stick to.

But there are objections both to ending cash limits and taking the State-run industries out of the PSBR. Borrowing by nationalized industries carries, in effect, a government guarantee. Financial targets can be missed and the Government could find its public sector industries running up a financing requirement for reasons other than productive investment which would be difficult to control.

So far the Government is committed only to examining the issues in detail. The present arrangement certainly has its disadvantages and the Government is showing itself prepared to tidy up unsatisfactory financial situations.

## Opec price plan goes to ministers

By Our Energy Correspondent

A committee of six members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) chaired by Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, agreed in London yesterday on an automatic system for raising prices in real terms.

If implemented it would be the most important development in the world oil market since Opec began to take control over oil production in its countries from the multinational companies 10 years ago.

The plan is to adjust oil prices quarterly to take account of inflation in industrialized countries and to link the cost of a barrel of crude to a basket of currencies. This would keep prices constant in real terms.

An inflation and currency-proof increase would be applied by raising prices further by the percentage increase of real growth in the gross national products of OECD member countries.

Opec would still have to tackle the problem of adjusting production to demand. If individual countries were left to tailor their own production to demand, it is doubtful whether the market would ever allow the plan to work.

The next stage is an extraordinary meeting of Opec oil ministers in April or May. If that meeting agrees to the plan it will go before the second Opec summit meeting of heads of member states in Baghdad in September.

# "We got so many orders we almost didn't know what to do with them."

A PRINTING COMPANY

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## BUSINESS TO BUSINESS EXHIBITION

### PRICE CHANGES

<b>Rises</b>	
Autodromic 1p to 9p	
Bambers Stores 6p to 85p	
Chiffers Chapel 5p to 100p	
De Vries Hotels 10p to 250p	
Fogarty Etc 4p to 75p	
<b>Falls</b>	
Blackwood Mt 1p to 16p	
Bumal Pulp 8p to 40p	
Grand Central 25p to 80p	
Guthrie Corp 25p to 780p	
Harcisons Malay 5p to 190p	

<b>May &amp; Hassell</b>	
Meyer M 5p to 50p	
Wm Winstone 20p to 363p	
Nigate Explorer 20p to 495p	
Peko Wallend 10p to 450p	

<b>THE POUND</b>	
Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia \$ 30.30	28.30
Belgium Fr 69.70	66.20
Canada \$ 2.68	2.61
Denmark Kr 12.95	12.40
Finland Mk 9.45	9.25
France F 4.19	3.97
Germany DM 101.00	11.05
Greece Dr 11.11	1.07
Hong Kong \$ 1950.00	1870.00
Ireland P 585.80	561.00
Italy Lit 1.40	4.37
Japan Yen 110.00	110.00
Netherlands Gld 4.60	4.37

## British group joins forces with continental lobby Directors want bigger say in Europe

The Institute of Directors yesterday announced an affiliation with a European counterpart, the Federation des Jeunes Chefs d'Entreprise d'Europe, which the directors say is one of the official policy of the European Parliament.

The timing of the announcement was unfortunate in that it came two days after the legal affairs committee of the Strasbourg assembly unexpectedly threw out the directive most likely to frighten British directors into signing up for the new association.

This was the fifth company law directive which would have forced the German system of a two-tier board, with at least one third of the supervisory board appointed by the workers, on to the rest of the Community.

## BUSINESS TO BUSINESS EXHIBITION





## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Ford not dismayed by fourth quarter loss

Ford Motor says that despite lower earnings for the year and a fourth-quarter loss, the company's 1979 performance was good considering the motor industry's difficulties. Calling 1979 its third-best year, Ford said the results demonstrated that the company was strong and diversified.

Ford's 1979 earnings fell from \$1.6bn to \$1.2bn on revenues of \$43.5bn compared with \$42.8bn. Ford's operations outside the United States accounted for most of the company's strength during the year, as earnings reached \$11.41 per share, up from \$6.55 a year ago. The 1979 results included an extra-

## International

ordinary tax credit of \$1.55 per share.

Ford's US operations showed an after-tax loss of \$1.56 per share in 1979, compared with a profit of \$6.80.

Fruehauf Corp said that first-quarter 1980 net earnings comparisons will be adversely affected by a 62 cents a share foreign currency translation gain included in the first quarter of 1979, compared to an estimated 42 cents a share loss in the 1980 period.

The company said that its two major industry segments, automotive components and truck trailers, will be down in the first quarter.

It does not expect a substantial drop in operating earnings, however, and expects each succeeding quarter to be better than the previous quarter throughout the year.—Reuters.

Share trading in Hutchison Properties has been suspended pending a supreme court hearing on the scheme of arrangement whereby it will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Hutchison Whampoa group, a Hongkong Stock Exchange spokesman said.

Hutchison Whampoa offered \$HK25.25 a share for the 28.25 per cent of Hutchison Properties' 33.35 nominal \$5 shares it did not already own.—Reuters.

## Options

Interest among traded options took another nose dive yesterday. After a dull week most thoughts were turning to the weekend. Total contracts dropped from 503 to 300, with most of the business fairly evenly spread. Imperial Group closed the list with 64 contracts, closely followed by ICI on 35 ahead of next Thursday's figures. The two mining finance houses, RTZ and Cons Gold, had their quietest day in a long time achieving only 38 contracts between them.

Dealers reported very little interest among traditional options. What interest there was, was centred on UDT following recent bid speculation. Indeed, UDT featured in all three types of contract.

## Bank Base Rates

Bank	Base Rate
ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Crds	17%
C. Hoare & Co	17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminster	17%
Rossminster	17%
TSB	17%
Williams & Glyn's	17%

\* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 15%, up to £25,000 15%, over £25,000 15.5%.

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## The Over-the-Counter Market

1979 Low	High	Company	Price	Change	Divid	P/E
99	72	Airsprung Group	72	-1	6.7	9.3
50	36	Armstrong & Rhodes	36	-3	3.8	10.6
235	185	Barton Hill	235	+1	13.8	5.9
100	85	County Cars Pref	85	-	15.3	18.0
101	63	Deborah Ord	63	-	5.0	5.4
98	88	Frank Horsell	98	-	7.3	8.1
129	100	Frederick Parker	100	-	13.3	4.9
156	102	Uniclock Holdings	102	-	16.3	15.7
64	45	Jackson Group	64	+1	5.2	8.1
153	113	James Burroughs	113	+1	7.2	10.1
300	242	Robert Jenkins	250	-	31.3	12.5
232	175	Torday Limited	218	-	14.3	6.3
34	164	Twinlock Ord	216	-	0.8	4.0
80	70	Twinlock 12% ULS	71	-	12.0	13.8
56	52	Uniclock Holdings	52	-	1.1	1.1
85	42	Walker Alexander	85	-	4.4	5.1
190	136	W. S. Yates	182	-	25.8	6.3

\*Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP15.

## Wall Street

New York, Feb. 22.—New increases in bank prime interest rates and worsening inflation depressed stock prices in active trading this morning. Declines outnumbered advances by nearly five-to-one and the Dow Jones Industrial average fell five points.

Consumer prices rose 1.4 per cent in January, the worst one-month jump since August 1973. Citibank's January report of Chicago raised their prime rates to 16.1 per cent from 15.1 per cent. IBM slipped 1 to 63 1/2, and volume leader Texaco 1 1/2 to 37 1/2.

February 21: The Dow Jones Industrial average closed 18.34 points down at 868.52.

February 21: Stocks closed broadly lower in heavy trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

## Silver rallies

New York, Feb. 22.—SILVER futures rallied a sharp 70 to 34 cents after reports that Soviet troops were moving in force closer to the Pakistani border.

Gold prices were also higher, with March futures up 1 1/2 to \$378.00.

March 1980: March, \$378.00; April, \$378.00; May, \$378.00; June, \$378.00; July, \$378.00; August, \$378.00; September, \$378.00; October, \$378.00; November, \$378.00; December, \$378.00.

March 1980: March, \$378.00; April, \$378.00; May, \$378.00; June, \$378.00; July, \$378.00; August, \$378.00; September, \$378.00; October, \$378.00; November, \$378.00; December, \$378.00.

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, March 7. § Contango Day, March 10. Settlement Day, March 17  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

\* Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. d Interim payment passed. e Price at suspension. f Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. g Bid for company. h Pre-merger figures. i Forecast earnings. j SE capital distribution. k Ex rights. l Ex scrip or share split. m Tax free. n Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

## The good, the bad and the perfectly awful

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